

CITY OF LIVERPOOL.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

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REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR

1931

BY

W. M. FRAZER, M.D., M.Sc. D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health, and Medical Officer to the Education Authority*

*Received by the Education Committee, 27th June, 1932.*





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## EXPLANATION OF TECHNICAL TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT.

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Albinism.....	Congenital absence of pigment in hair and eye.
Attic cavity.....	A small compartment inside the ear.
Auricular eczema .....	Eczema of the ear.
Blepharitis .....	Inflammation of the margins of the eyelids.
Buphthalmos .....	A large bulging eye, means literally "Ox-eye."
Caries .....	Decay of bone or teeth.
Cataract .....	An opaque condition of the lens of the eye.
Choroiditis .....	Inflammation at the back of the eye.
Coloboma .....	An incompleated circle of the coloured part of the eye.
Conjunctivitis.....	Inflammation of the transparent membrane lining the front of the eye and the inner surface of the eyelids.
Cornea.....	The transparent part of the eye in front of the pupil.
Corneal opacity .....	An opaque condition of the cornea resulting from ulceration.
Corneal ulcers .....	Ulcers on the cornea or clear part in front of the eye.
Furunculosis .....	A technical term for boils.
Granulations .....	Proud flesh.
Hypermetropia .....	Long sight.
Impetigo .....	Contagious sores with yellow crusts on, often associated with dirty and verminous conditions.
Intrathoracic Glands...	Glands inside the chest.
Keratitis .....	Inflammation of the cornea.
Kerato-irido-cyclitis...	Inflammation of various parts of the eye.
Mastoid .....	The mastoid bone which lies immediately behind the ear, and communicates internally with it.
Meatus .....	The external opening of the ear.
Myopia .....	Short sight.
Nystagmus .....	A trembling condition of the eye-balls.
Ophthalmia neonatorum	Inflammation of the eyes in the newly-born.
Optic atrophy .....	Degeneration of the nerve of the eye.
Otitis media .....	Inflammation of the inside of the ear.
Otorrhœa .....	A discharge from the ear (running ear).
Pediculosis .....	Infection with lice.
Polypi .....	Growths hanging by a stalk.
Rhinitis .....	Inflammation of the mucous membrane of the nose.
Scabies .....	A contagious skin condition commonly known as "itch."
Spastic paralysis .....	A form of paralysis producing rigidity.
Suppuration .....	Inflammation resulting in the formation of pus.
Talipes .....	Club-foot.
Torticollis .....	"Wry-neck."
Trachoma .....	A chronic contagious disease of the eye.
Tympanic sepsis .....	Pus formation inside the ear.
Zinc ionisation .....	A method of treating disease of the ear by means of a zinc solution applied electrically.





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# CITY OF LIVERPOOL.

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## EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

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### REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER to the Education Authority for the Year ended 31st December, 1931.

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1. The Medical Officer, in submitting the Annual Report of the **Introduction** School Medical Service for the year 1931, would draw attention to the fact that the work was carried out during the first seven months of the year under the supervision of his predecessor, Dr. A. A. Mussen, who retired in August. The period of Dr. Mussen's tenure of office, handicapped as it was by the necessity for strict economy, was, nevertheless, characterised by valuable progressive developments of the School Medical Service, which considerably strengthened this important link in the chain of preventive medicine.

2. A perusal of the Report will shew the many activities of the Service, the extension of the work during the year, and indicate the large number of children who have benefited.

No change has been made in the arrangements for the treatment of the children in the Public Elementary, Special and Higher Schools, which have been explained in previous Annual Reports.

3. The following changes were made in the personnel of the **Staff** medical and dental staffs:—Dr. Jarvis and Dr. MacRae were appointed early in the year to replace Dr. Bradley and Dr. Wilson who had left the Service, and Dr. Cohen tendered his resignation towards the end of the year. One additional appointment was made to the dental staff, Mr. Bromley joining the Service in February.

**New Clinics**

4. At the end of the year the erection of the Clinic at Norris Green was well advanced. This building is being provided not only for the use of the Education Committee, but also as an Antenatal and Infant Welfare Clinic for the Health Committee. As far as the Education Committee is concerned, the Clinic will provide for the treatment of minor ailments, dental defects and defective vision. It is anticipated that this Clinic will be opened shortly after Easter, 1932.

The new Clinic for the Everton District was opened in August. This Clinic has been established by the adaptation of a large house at 71, Everton Road, situated on land purchased by the Education Committee as a site for a Nursery School. The School Medical Sub-Committee were particularly fortunate in having the house allocated to them for Clinic purposes, and the fullest possible use has been made of every room. Clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and aural defects have been opened, whilst the basement has been put to practical use as a Cleansing Station for the Health Committee. On the land immediately behind the house was a one-storied brick building which formerly had been used as a workshop, and this has lent itself admirably for adaptation as an Orthopædic Clinic.

The opening of these premises enabled the Committee to relinquish part of the premises previously rented as a Minor Ailments Clinic at the old Brunswick Wesleyan School, Erskine Street.

5. Other developments which were made during the year were the opening of an additional "Sight-saving" Class for children with very defective eyesight at the Underlea Day Open-Air School and the provision by the Health Committee of a new Cleansing Station at the South Dispensary, Upper Parliament Street.

**Dental Staff**

6. Of the various activities of the Service, the Dental Section is the one which is relatively most under-staffed. At the present time there are only sufficient dentists to undertake about half the amount of work required.



The unsatisfactory condition of the mouths of children of leaving age in those schools in which it has not yet been possible to apply the dental scheme emphasises the need for increasing the Dental Staff. Investigation in such schools has shewn that 44·5 per cent. had considerable decay of the teeth, 41·0 per cent. had advanced decay or septic conditions, whilst 6·0 per cent. had severe oral sepsis. The loss of permanent teeth was almost as serious, for over 50 per cent. of the children had either lost all the very important 6 year old molars or these teeth were so badly decayed as to be unsaveable.

7. The following is a summary of the cases treated under the Committee's Schemes:—

#### **SUMMARY OF CASES TREATED UNDER THE COMMITTEE'S SCHEMES.**

Dental caries ... ..	18,711
Miscellaneous minor ailments ... ..	16,212
Defective vision ... ..	6,425
Skin diseases ... ..	4,580
Eye diseases ... ..	3,205
Ear diseases ... ..	2,518
Tonsils and adenoids... ..	1,564
Orthopædic ... ..	461

In addition to the above, 17,302 children attended the various Cleansing Stations for treatment.

8. The Medical Officer would like to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered by the Child Guidance Council in investigation of cases of "difficult children" which have been referred to them by the Medical Department during the year. The closest co-operation has existed between this Council and the Department, and from a subsequent investigation of those cases which had been under their care, it is quite clear that this organisation is undertaking very valuable work and is achieving most satisfactory results.

**Child Guid-  
ance Council**

**Health  
Exhibition**

9. During the last week in September, a Health Exhibition, arranged by the Merseyside Boroughs Health Education Committee, was held in St. George's Hall. The School Medical Department was allocated a stall, at which the various activities of the Department were demonstrated as well as specimens of the work undertaken by the children taught in the Education Committee's Special Schools. Models, charts, photographs and coloured diagrams were on view, and special types of equipment used for educational purposes in some of the Special Schools also aided in making the stall one of considerable interest.

10. During the year the following new school was opened, viz., Ellergreen Road Council School.

There were at the end of the year 186 public elementary schools, the average number of children on the rolls of these schools for the year being 137,949, and the average attendance 122,565, or 88·9 per cent.

11. The complete statistical tables of the work carried out during the year appear in Appendix A and Appendix B of the Report on pages 59 and 71; the following, however, is a short summary of the inspections carried out.

**Brief  
Statistical  
Summary**

The School Medical Officers have during the year carried out at the schools and inspection clinics 144,331 examinations relating to approximately 88,300 school children.

**Public Elementary Schools.**

Routine examinations	...	...	...	...	42,253
Special examinations	...	...	...	...	14,206
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	62,097
Total number of inspections	...	...	...	...	118,556
Number of individual children inspected	...	...	...	...	80,319

**Higher Schools.**

Routine examinations	...	...	...	...	6,725
Special examinations	...	...	...	...	302
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	6,886
Total number of inspections	...	...	...	...	13,913
Number of individual children inspected	...	...	...	...	7,999

### Special Schools.

Routine examinations	...	...	...	...	491
Special examinations	...	...	...	...	54
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	1,317
Total number of inspections	...	...	...	...	1,862

12. The Medical Officer is indebted to the Director of Education for information supplied with regard to certain sections of this Report relating, in particular, to the work in connection with the Special Schools, Provision of Meals and Juvenile Employment.

### ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME.

13. Since the last Report was written the work has very considerably increased. In August, 1931, an additional Clinic at Everton Road was opened. This was in pursuance of the policy of keeping the Clinics within reasonable distance of the homes in order that the continuation of massage and after-care should be as uninterrupted as possible. Consequently certain cases were transferred from Walton Road and Dingle Clinics to Everton Road, and in addition 46 new cases were taken on there, many at the request of the mothers or of the Hospital surgeons. There were also 53 new cases admitted to the Dingle Clinic and 114 to the Walton Road Clinic.

The number of children attending the Clinics for massage or remedial exercises having increased to such an extent that it was no longer possible for the one Orthopædic Sister to deal efficiently with them, a whole-time masseuse was appointed towards the latter part of the year. The increasing numbers are gratifying, and demonstrate the undoubted success of the scheme.

14. Great enthusiasm is shewn by the majority of parents, and their attention to instructions, which may be taken as a test of their interest, has been extremely satisfactory. Many excellent results have been obtained owing to the persistent attention available at the Clinics.



15. As a matter of administration, the treatment of cripples may be arranged in one of two ways. Firstly, the patient may be kept in a suitable type of hospital for the whole duration of his treatment, often lasting over a term of years; or secondly, after a period in hospital during which any necessary surgical measures are carried out, he may be discharged and kept under expert supervision afterwards. The first is probably the ideal way, but it is, generally speaking, impracticable and, except for certain types of cases, unnecessary. The advantage of the second method, which is the one adopted under the Orthopædic Scheme, is that, since such lengthy periods of maintenance in hospital are not required as in the former method, and less hospital accommodation is therefore necessary, the cost of treatment is materially reduced.

The ultimate aim of the Orthopædic Scheme, which was fully described in the last Annual Report, is to ensure that the greatest possible number of cripples, or potential cripples, shall develop into healthy wage-earning citizens, and in a few years a great general improvement in this direction is to be expected as a result of the Orthopædic Scheme.

The beneficial effects of Orthopædic treatment are well shewn in the accompanying photographs of two children treated under the Orthopædic Scheme.

A comparison of the two upper photographs shews the great improvement achieved in a case of deformity due to rickets, whilst the lower photographs shew the improvement in a case of wry-neck.

16. It will be seen from the following table that during the year over 8,000 attendances were made for treatment at the three Clinics, and that 910 examinations were made by the visiting surgeon. Corrective plasters were applied in 11 cases, 17 cases were referred to two of the hospitals for X-ray, and it was considered necessary in the case of 40 children to have them admitted to hospital for operative treatment.



ORTHOPAEDIC CASES BEFORE AND AFTER TREATMENT

Above—Bowlegs.

Below—Wryneck.









**Table 1.**  
**Cases dealt with under Orthopaedic Scheme during 1931.**

Defect.	Cases seen at Surgeon's Visits.				Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.											
	No. of Cases.		No. of Attendances.		No. of Cases.			No. of Attendances.								
	Clinic.		Clinic.		Clinic.			Clinic.								
	Dingle House.	Walton Road.	Everton Road	TOTAL.	Dingle House.	Walton Road.	Everton Road	TOTAL.	Dingle House.	Walton Road.	Everton Road.	TOTAL.				
Infantile Paralysis	18	36	13	67	43	85	16	144	15	29	11	55	677	814	137	1,628
Birth Palsy ...	3	5	6	14	8	10	8	26	2	3	4	9	96	104	52	252
Spastic Paralysis	17	26	11	54	38	50	16	104	15	24	12	51	616	636	171	1,423
Rickets ...	24	67	18	109	44	114	25	183	8	23	11	42	354	231	99	684
Talipes ...	11	20	1	32	26	33	2	61	8	13	1	22	305	323	1	629
Spinal Curvature	13	22	3	38	32	55	3	90	13	20	4	37	425	755	41	1,221
Torticollis ...	1	3	3	7	2	5	4	11	1	3	3	7	7	25	58	90
Flat Feet ...	14	30	10	54	36	70	14	120	12	22	6	40	417	465	57	939
Chest deformities	2	—	—	2	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	12	—	—	12
Other deformities	14	22	5	41	28	47	8	83	7	14	4	25	179	349	59	587
Other defects...	9	24	4	37	17	55	7	79	5	18	5	28	216	361	44	621
No orthopaedic defect found ...	2	2	2	6	2	2	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	128	257	76*	461	279	526	105	910	87	169	61†	317	3,304	4,063	719	8,086

\* Of these 30 cases were transferred from Walton Road and 1 from Dingle House.

† Of these 29 cases were transferred from Walton Road.

## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

17. The Dental Staff was increased from six to seven whole-time officers during the year by the appointment of Mr. Bromley, who commenced duty in February.

The need for the provision of facilities for dental treatment in the new housing area at Norris Green was so urgent that a temporary Clinic was opened in the premises of the Abbotsford Road Council School, pending the completion of the new Clinic premises referred to in the introduction of the Report. In order to minimise the interference with the normal working of the school, the number of sessions had to be limited so as to deal mainly with the children who were found most urgently to need treatment. The opening of the new premises early in 1932 will enable the scope of the dental scheme in this area to be considerably extended.

The Dental Clinic at 71, Everton Road was also opened during the year, bringing the total number of such Clinics in use to seven. These premises are available for the treatment of a number of children in this district who have previously had to attend the Dental Hospital or Netherfield Road Clinics.

18. The following Table shews the work carried out under the Dental Scheme for the children attending the Public Elementary Schools, together with the corresponding figures for the previous two years:—

**Table 2.**

	1929	1930	1931
Number of children examined in school ... ..	55,789	55,499	62,073
Number of children requiring treatment ... ..	43,526 (78·1%)	43,010 (77·3%)	49,743 (80·1%)
Number of cases accepting treatment under the Dental Scheme ... ..	16,555 (38%)	17,325 (40·3%)	18,017 (36·2%)
Number of cases treated ... ..	15,570	16,581	17,588
Number of schools treated ... ..	90	97	108

19. The percentage of parents accepting treatment for their children under the Committee's Scheme was 36·2, as compared with a percentage of 40·3 in the previous year. This lowered percentage is, however, more apparent than real, and is largely accounted for by the fact that in order to provide work for the Dentists during the Christmas vacation, there were sent out to the parents shortly before the holidays several thousand notices, of which only a small number of acceptances were received by the end of the year. This had the effect of reducing the proportion of acceptances over the whole year, as the great majority of the acceptances relating to these cases would not be received until January, 1932.

20. During the latter half of the year the following up at the homes was discontinued, and this fact was also responsible for the loss of a certain number of acceptances. The acceptance rate, however, must be regarded as disappointing, and experience has shewn that the only satisfactory way of increasing the response of the parents is through educational means directed towards the enlightenment of ignorance in regard to this branch of treatment, rather than by the utilisation of ordinary following-up methods which, in far too many cases, meet with success only when the child is suffering pain.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that to decline treatment so long as there is no toothache almost always subsequently necessitates the sacrifice of teeth which are irreplaceable and could have been saved. It is a matter for extreme regret that every year some thousands of permanent teeth have to be extracted because of the failure on the part of the parents to realise the preventive object of the Committee's scheme.

### **TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.**

21. At the routine age examinations of the Public Elementary School children, the number found to require treatment for these defects was 887, which represents a percentage of 2·1 of the children. Apart from the cases discovered at routine examinations, 655 other children were found to require treatment for one or both of these conditions.



There are always a certain number of border line cases of slightly enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids discovered in which it is questionable as to whether or not operative treatment would be beneficial, and it has been the practice for some years to refer these cases to the Committee's surgeon for his opinion. During the year 58·8 per cent. of the 605 cases so submitted were, after his opinion, recommended for operative treatment.

22. The treatment Clinic is held at the North Dispensary, Vauxhall Road, and was opened on 136 occasions during the year. The beds were very fully utilised, and although only 12 beds are available the average number treated was 11·5 per occasion. The total number of cases treated was 1,564, which number included 29 cases from the Special and 7 from the Higher schools.

The operations were as follows:—

Tonsils only	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,032
Adenoids only	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	...	445
Total							<hr/> 1,564 <hr/>

After the operations the children are kept in for one night, or longer, according to their condition. Whilst it is inevitable that there must be a certain amount of bleeding after the tonsils have been removed, this usually soon stops by a natural physiological process, but in a certain number of cases this process becomes unduly delayed, and it is for such cases that the special tonsillar hæmorrhage clamps have proved so useful. It was found necessary to utilise these clamps in 147 cases out of the 1,477 cases in which the tonsils were removed. Hæmorrhage after removal of adenoids is much less frequent, and in only 6 cases out of 532 in which the adenoids were operated upon was special treatment necessary.

23. When the children are discharged from the Clinic the parents are given both verbal and printed instructions with regard to the after care of their children, and in order to see that these

instructions are being carried out the School Nurses visit the cases in their homes. This following up is delegated to those Nurses who have had experience of the post-operative treatment of these cases, and each one on her visits is provided with a case containing all necessary equipment for dealing with any emergencies which she may encounter. As a result of these visits it was discovered that 93 of the children were out of the house on the day after the operation despite the fact that the parents had been instructed to keep the children in bed for three days. Recurrent hæmorrhage occurred in 14 of the cases, 6 of these being removed to hospital for treatment. The Nurses have been instructed to arrange for the transfer of any such cases which cannot be satisfactorily looked after at home, to the appropriate hospital of the Public Assistance Committee.

### **DISEASES OF THE EAR.**

24. The School Medical Officers during the Routine Inspections discovered 735 cases of Otorrhœa (1·73 per cent.), and in addition 222 cases of deafness.

25. Towards the latter part of the year a new Zinc Ionisation Clinic was opened for two sessions a week at the new Everton Road Clinic. The attendances at the Clinic were very satisfactory, and since its opening nearly 100 cases of Otorrhœa have been successfully treated.

When the treatment centres are located nearer to the parents' homes, this special treatment can be extended to a much larger number of cases than would be possible at one centre only. The individual attendances of the children are also much better, as many find it difficult to attend as required, when living a long distance away.

26. The parents are now taking a keen interest in this special electrical treatment, and numerous requests for the treatment have been received from parents.

A special point has been made since the inauguration of the Ionisation Clinic of explaining to the parents, when they attend with the children to be treated, the necessity of their co-operation in seeing that certain instructions as to after-care are faithfully carried out, so that the treatment should be as far as possible a permanent success. Two printed pamphlets of "Special instructions" are now given in every case. No. 1 "Instructions" while the case is under treatment, and No. 2 "Instructions" in the after-care of the case. These pamphlets have been found exceedingly helpful.

**Pre-School  
Cases**

27. Six cases of pre-school children with Suppurative Otitis Media, referred from the Infant Welfare Centres, were treated, and all were cured, on an average, after three weeks' treatment. The advantage of treating such cases in their early stage is that serious damage to the hearing mechanism is thereby obviated.

28. There have been altogether about 3,000 cases treated since the opening of the Clinic, and relapses have been very few, and there can be no doubt but that this method is the best, quickest and most certain means of curing the great majority of cases of chronic ear discharge.

During the year a few cases of chronic Auricular Eczema, which had been found to be intractable to the usual "ointment" treatment, were treated with one or two applications of Iodide Ionisation, with remarkable results. The most chronic cases responded quickly, and this method can be strongly recommended for intractable cases.

29. The following Table shews in detail the classification of the cases dealt with at the Aural Clinic, and the nature of the work undertaken:—



**Table 3.**

Total number of children examined for ear, nose  
and throat defects ... .. 538

1. Acute Suppurative Otitis Media:—

(a) Treated at the Clinic	...	...	6	}	7
(b) Referred to Hospital	...	...	1		
(c) Acute Mastoiditis referred to Hospital..					4

2. Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media:—

(a) One ear only, discharging	...	407	}	443
(b) Both ears discharging	...	36		

3. Chronic Mastoiditis:—

Previously Mastoid operation	...	...	11
------------------------------	-----	-----	----

4. Deafness (no Otorrhœa) ... .. 16

5. Nasal conditions, including:—

Rhinitis (congestive), Sinusitis, Enlarged  
Tonsils and Adenoids:—

(a) Associated with Chronic Otorrhœa	...	118
(b) Not associated with Chronic Otorrhœa		17

6. Other conditions, Wax, Eczema, etc. ... 19

**Treatment and Recommendations.**

Zinc Ionisation	...	...	...	...	458 (ears)
Iodide Ionisation...	...	...	...	...	5 (ears)
“ Antiseptic ” treatment	...	...	...	...	6
Polypi removed	...	...	...	...	11
Wax removed	...	...	...	...	8

Referred to Hospital for:—

(a) Acute Otitis	...	...	...	1	}	26
(b) Acute Mastoid	...	...	...	4		
(c) Chronic Mastoid	...	...	...	21		

Referred to Tonsils and Adenoids Clinic ... 57

Referred to Minor Ailments Clinics (unsuitable  
for Zinc Ionisation Clinic) ... .. 20

Other cases examined:—

No treatment given, Quiescent Otorrhœa,  
Rhinitis, Deafness, etc., Advice given to  
parents as to home treatment, etc.... .. 31

Nasal Diastolisation ... .. 16

**Table 4.**

**Return of Cases of Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media  
treated by Ionisation.**

(Friel's Classification).

Causes of Suppuration.	Total.	Cured.	Im- proved. or slightly Im- proved	Left School or lost sight of	Referred to Hospital	Still under Treatment on 31.12.31
<b>CHRONIC SUPPURATIVE OTITIS MEDIA.</b>						
<b>I. Tympanic conditions solely :—</b>						
(a) Tympanic Sepsis ... ..	217	191	—	9	—	17
(b) Tym. Sep. + Granulations ... ..	47	36	4	2	1	4
(c) do. + Polypi ... ..	11	5	1	—	3	2
(d) do. + Caries ... ..	7	3	—	1	1	2
<b>II. Tympanic conditions combined with :—</b>						
†(a) Tonsils and Adenoids ... ..	54	42	—	2	*3	7
(b) Nasal Conditions ... ..	64	50	4	2	*6	2
<b>III. Tympanic conditions combined with :—</b>						
(a) Attic Disease ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Mastoid Disease:—						
(1) Previous Operation ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—
(2) No Operation ... ..	16	—	3	—	10	3
<b>IV. Tympanic conditions combined with :—</b>						
(a) External Otitis ... ..	14	10	—	2	—	2
(b) Stricture of Meatus ... ..	7	3	1	—	2	1
<b>V. ‡External Otitis</b> Only including Furun- culosis and auricular Eczema... ..	17	14	—	—	—	3
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ..	458	358	13	18	26	43

NOTES.—

† Tonsils and Adenoids removed (T. & A. Clinic) 45.

‡ Chronic Eczema treated by Iodide Ionisation 5.

\* Diastolisation ... .. 9.

## DEFECTIVE VISION.

30. The number of children with defective vision, including squint, found at the routine examinations of the intermediates and leavers was 5,230 (20·0 per cent.), but 58·0 per cent. of these cases were already under observation, and the majority had been supplied with glasses.

The routine testing of the vision is not carried out in the case of the entrants, but 720 were found to have defective vision.

In addition to the routine cases, 5,658 were seen as special or re-inspection cases.

31. The number of new cases treated under the Committee's scheme was 3,407, as compared with 3,582 in 1930, whilst 179 children were treated privately or at the hospitals. The number re-examined at the Clinics was 2,710.

32. At the re-inspections in the schools, 12,583 children, who had been provided with glasses, were seen, and of these 3,887, or 30·9 per cent., were found not to be wearing them, which is a slight improvement in the percentage recorded in the previous year. **Glasses  
not worn.**

33. Dr. Livsey, the Oculist at the Committee's Clinics, reports that the work at the several Clinics has been carried out quite smoothly throughout the year. The opening of the new Clinic in Everton Road in August has considerably relieved the pressure at the North Corporation School Clinic and has enabled the large waiting list at the latter Clinic to be materially reduced. The new and well-equipped Clinic has worked most satisfactorily, and is much appreciated by the parents attending. The policy of explaining in a simple way the eye defects to the parents has been continued and is very helpful in securing their co-operation.



There have been very few cases of relapsing corneal ulceration during the year; the severe cases are rarely seen now, owing to the early treatment at the Minor Ailments Clinics of those lid conditions which predispose to corneal infection and ulceration.

34. The scheme of the Health Committee for the treatment of squint in pre-school children by the early provision of glasses has been taken advantage of in the case of 72 children, as compared with 83 the previous year.

### **STAMMERING.**

35. During the routine examinations at the schools, 177 children suffering from this defect were discovered, the stammer being moderate or severe in degree in about one-third of the cases; a further 92 cases were also presented by the teachers for examination as special cases.

The incidence of stammering amongst the children discovered at the routine examinations was:—Entrants, 0·13 per cent.; Intermediates, 0·39 per cent.; Leavers, 0·93 per cent.

36. The classes for Stammerers, which were suspended during February and March, 1931, were re-opened in the new special school, Richmond Terrace, on April 20th, the old room in the North Corporation School being retained for two half-days per week, in order that children from that area might still receive treatment.

Two rooms in the administrative part of the Richmond School are used for the classes, and are a great improvement on the one in the North Corporation School, being better ventilated and very much quieter.

37. On October 19th, 1931, a Remedial Speech class was opened. This class is intended to treat cases of defective speech other than stammering, i.e., severe lisping, cleft palate speech, etc. At present this is in the experimental stage, but the children, although very young, take a real interest in the treatment, and have improved noticeably.

38. Miss K. E. Jones, the teacher of the Special Class, states that experience has shewn that it is inadvisable to teach boys and girls together in the same class, and since the middle of the year a separate class has been made for girls. Although stammering occurs much less frequently in the case of girls, when they do stammer they are much more difficult to cure than boys, and when they are taught in the same class they are apt to lose heart at not making as quick progress as the boys.

There is a tendency on the part of some of the parents to remove their children from the class as soon as they shew definite signs of improvement. The parents do not always appreciate that their children have only just learnt a new way of speaking, and if they do not continue practising this method till it becomes automatic they will almost certainly relapse.

39. An analysis of 80 consecutive cases of stammering as to the apparent cause shewed that there were 34 instances of stammering amongst other members of the family, in 14 there was history of shock, 5 were reported as having started after a severe illness and a further 5 as the consequence of imitating other stammerers; in the remaining 22 cases the causes could not be elicited owing to the parents not attending the examinations.

## MINOR AILMENTS.

### Minor Ailments Clinics

40. During the year, 26,243 cases were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics, and altogether 348,305 attendances were made by the children, the average number of attendances per child being 13·7.

The largest number that attended on any one session was 498 at the North Corporation Clinic, 428 at St. Gabriel's, 412 at Westminster Road, 333 at Erskine Street, 304 at Norris Green, 268 at Everton Road and 257 at St. Dunstan's.

41. Owing to the large number of cases of minor ailments amongst the children attending the Norris Green Schools, the Committee decided, pending the erection of the permanent Clinic, to open a temporary Clinic in the Norris Green Dining Centre belonging to the Meals Sub-Committee, and in February this was commenced, the Clinic being held during the afternoons. On the opening of the new Clinic at 71, Everton Road, it was found possible to relinquish one of the Clinics previously held at Erskine Street.

### External Eye Diseases

42. There were 602 cases (1·4 per cent.) of external eye diseases discovered at the routine examinations, one-half of these being cases of blepharitis. Many of these defects, particularly blepharitis, are chronic when first discovered, a large number having commenced during pre-school life, most frequently as a sequela of an attack of measles.

### Scabies

43. The number of children reported as suffering from scabies was 631, as compared with 471 in 1930, 249 in 1929, 258 in 1928, 449 in 1923, and 898 in 1921. It was found necessary during the year to make use of the special facilities for treatment at the Cleansing Station for 98 of the cases.

The following Table shews the number of defects treated and the average daily attendance at the various Clinics:—



Table 5.

Shewing the number of defects treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics and the average daily attendance at each Clinic.

DEFECTS TREATED.	NAME OF CLINIC									TOTALS.
	St. Gabriel's.	North Corporation.	Everton Road	Erskine Street.	Norris Green	Westminster Road.	St. Dunstan's.	Old Swan.	Garston.	
SKIN DEFECTS—										
Ringworm of the Body	49	77	11	41	13	48	17	11	1	268
Impetigo...	508	139	108	604	148	252	713	164	24	2,660
Other Defects	231	301	23	193	72	483	90	57	11	1,461
EAR CONDITIONS—										
Wax	74	92	25	36	42	45	8	13	16	351
Otorrhoea	311	321	78	198	150	183	148	90	45	1,524
Other Defects	62	120	17	71	106	77	56	38	15	562
EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE—	637	1,077	158	354	255	343	223	92	66	3,205
MISCELLANEOUS DEFECTS— (Sores, Minor Injuries, etc.)	2,681	3,501	1,030	2,291	2,172	1,240	1,546	700	1,051	16,212
TOTALS	4,553	5,628	1,450	3,788	2,958	2,671	2,801	1,165	1,229	26,243
Average daily attendance	230.7	230.3	139.9	138.0	132.7	131.5	119.3	76.5	65.0	1,138.2
Average daily attendance excluding Saturdays	269.1	269.7	160.4	159.2	155.9	153.9	138.5	88.2	75.8	1,327.5

## RINGWORM OF THE SCALP.

44. In the Annual Report for 1909 the Medical Officer reported that there had been 1,139 cases of ringworm of the scalp necessitating individual absences from school for months, and in some cases for years, involving a loss of Government Grant of between £300 and £400. The numbers absent from school on this account were then so large that the question of establishing separate classes in different areas of the City for the education of these children was considered. In 1911 the number of cases had risen to 1,425, and the Committee called for a special report on the subject. Consequent upon the report, the Committee in 1913 opened an X-ray Clinic for the treatment of these cases, since the opening of which there has been a steady diminution in the number of cases. In 1925 there were 426, in 1929 the number had dropped to 209, whilst the figure for the present year was 175. If this steady diminution is maintained, it should not be many years before the disease will be almost eradicated.

45. The number of cases outstanding at the end of the year was 50, compared with 74, 93, 103, 111 and 135 for the preceding five years. These figures afford additional evidence that the disease is gradually becoming less prevalent.

46. The following Table shews in percentages the duration of the cases outstanding at the end of the year, the figures for the preceding three years being also given for the purposes of comparison :—

**Table 6.**

Duration.			1928	1929	1930	1931
Under 3 months	...	...	21·9	24·0	46·9	25·5
3 to 6 months	...	...	31·3	31·6	20·3	25·5
6 to 9 months	...	...	17·7	20·3	18·8	31·9
9 to 12 months	...	...	11·4	6·4	3·1	10·7
12 to 18 months	...	...	9·4	11·3	6·3	4·3
Over 18 months	...	...	8·3	6·4	4·6	2·1
			100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

47. In the middle of the year the services of the Department were requested to deal with an outbreak of ringworm which had persisted for some considerable time in a Girls' Residential Industrial School outside the area. On investigation it was found that the outbreak, as in the case of the Hightown outbreak, was due to the large spored variety of trichophyton. After careful examination of every child in the school, 6 cases were discovered, isolated and treated at the Committee's Clinic. In the experience of the Medical Officers who dealt with these outbreaks, these cases due to the large spored variety of ringworm are much more difficult to recognise, owing to the fact that in most cases very few hairs were infected necessitating a very thorough examination of each child's scalp, to obviate the possibility of any case being missed which might continue to infect other children.

48. The X-ray treatment of the disease has been continued at the North Corporation Treatment Centre, the Clinic being opened on 39 occasions and 93 new cases treated. **X-Ray Clinic**

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

49. At the routine inspections, 2 definite cases of phthisis were discovered, and in addition, 52 cases of tuberculous glands and 109 cases of other forms of tuberculosis, a total of 163, or 0·38 per cent. of the routine cases.

There were also seen at the Inspection Clinics, or as special cases at the schools, 26 definite or suspected pulmonary cases and 89 cases of other types of tuberculosis.

50. All cases of actual or suspected tuberculosis discovered by the School Medical Officers were referred to the Tuberculosis Officers for examination. The number of references so made was 139, whilst the Tuberculosis Department supplied information with reference to 2,367 school children who had been reported from various sources as possible cases of tuberculosis, but the majority of these, however, proved to be non-tuberculous. Of the 2,367 references received, 1,261 were new cases, of which 880 were non-tuberculous.



51. At the end of the year, the total number of children of school age known to the department to be suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis was 168, of which 114 were in institutions, chiefly at the Cleaver and Broadgreen Sanatoria, where special classes were arranged for those children whose state of health permitted.

There were also 190 non-pulmonary cases, of which number 106 were in institutions, chiefly Fazakerley Sanatorium, Alder Hey Hospital and Leasowe.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.**

52. The usual infectious diseases were slightly less prevalent during the year, 7,852 cases of children of school age being reported, as against 10,832, 8,750, 9,876, 10,128, and 8,921 for the years 1926 to 1930 respectively. Compared with the last year, there was a decrease in the number of cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles and chicken-pox, but an increase in the number of cases of whooping cough and mumps.

Diphtheria continued to be prevalent during 1931. Numerous visits to schools were paid, and swabs were taken from 984 children for the detection of carrier cases. Of these, 45 or 4·6 per cent., were positive, and these children were excluded until they ceased to be infectious.

Infants' departments were wholly or partially closed in 9 instances for measles, 9 instances because of the simultaneous prevalence of measles and influenza, 7 instances for influenza, and in 2 instances for influenza and whooping cough.

The following Tables shew the number of cases of the common infectious diseases, with the ages of the children affected, and the monthly distribution of the cases:—

Table 7.

## SCHOOL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

## Monthly Distribution.

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	130	141	124	146	123	147	96	96	158	177	167	129	1,634
Scarlet Fever ...	53	50	43	44	50	49	27	51	78	96	79	72	692
Whooping Cough ...	50	83	113	100	114	218	29	99	67	104	211	80	1,268
Chicken Pox ...	67	40	30	65	114	136	49	30	78	131	118	73	931
Mumps ...	9	20	41	93	128	160	19	24	69	114	161	79	917
Measles ..	585	267	429	290	136	140	73	12	14	36	22	46	2,410
	894	961	780	738	665	850	293	312	464	658	758	479	7,852

**Table 3.**  
**SCHOOL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**  
**Age Distribution.**

Disease.	Under 5	Under 6	Under 7	Total Under 7	Under 8	Under 9	Under 10	Under 11	Under 12	Under 13	Under 14	Over 14	Total 7 and over	GRAND TOTAL.
Diphtheria ...	22	233	279	534	219	208	195	187	122	84	57	28	1,100	1,634
Scarlet Fever ...	23	118	114	255	110	79	76	56	52	21	29	14	437	692
Whooping Cough	69	663	365	1,097	94	46	14	6	1	7	2	1	171	1,268
Chicken Pox ..	24	292	247	563	159	73	38	30	27	14	9	4	354	917
Mumps ...	35	260	241	536	169	98	46	38	21	15	8	0	395	931
Measles ...	119	905	694	1,718	406	109	70	46	28	18	10	5	692	2,410
	292	2,417	1,940	4,703	1,157	613	439	363	251	159	115	52	3,149	7,852



## NOTIFICATION OF DEFECTS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOLLOWING UP.

53. The scheme for the notification to parents of any defects found at the examination of their children, and the subsequent following up of such notification, remains the same as that described in previous Annual Reports. Presence of  
Parents

During 1931 the percentage of parents attending the routine examinations was as follows:—In the case of the Entrants 83·2 per cent., in the case of the Intermediates 42·0 per cent., but the percentage of parents attending the medical examination of the group of Leavers was only 14·6 per cent. Should the parents not be present at the time of the examination, and it be considered particularly desirable to discuss the health of their children with them, special efforts are made to secure their attendance on a subsequent occasion.

54. The accompanying Table 9 shews the number of notices given or sent to parents concerning the various defects for which treatment was considered necessary, the numbers for 1930 being given for comparison.

Table 10 gives the results of the following up by the different agencies undertaking the work.

**Table 9.**  
**Results of Following Up.**

Following-up Agencies.	Carried over from previous year.	Referred during 1931.	Total.	Treated at School Clinics or elsewhere.	Treatment refused or evaded.	Left School, etc.	Total reported upon.	Cases still under observation at end of year.
<b>SCHOOL ATTENDANCE STAFF—</b>								
Vision ... ..	1,775	6,646	8,421	5,514	1,279	190	6,983	1,438
Dental: School Dentists' cases	5,755	49,743	55,498	19,041	26,180	442	45,633	9,835
Tonsils and Adenoids ...	372	2,564	2,936	1,698	751	39	2,488	448
Ringworm of Scalp ... ( <i>re</i> X-Ray treatment)	7	152	159	96	53	—	149	10
<b>HEALTH VISITORS' STAFF—</b>								
Medical defects ... ..	74	380	454	134	189	21	344	110
General neglect ... ..	230	2,286	2,516	2,122	—	—	2,122	394
Verminous ... ..	1,612	13,362	14,974	13,167	—	—	13,167	1,807
<b>CHILD WELFARE ASSOCIATION—</b>								
Medical defects ... ..	270	1,731	2,001	1,528	314	2	1,844	157
<b>OTHER AGENCIES—</b>								
Medical defects ... ..	6	39	45	39	3	—	42	3

Table 10.

## Notification to Parents re Defects.

Defects.	First Notices.		Second Notices.		Third and subsequent Notices.		Totals.	
	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931
Defective Vision :—								
A.—Untreated cases .....	4,008	3,359	447	446	103	140	4,558	3,945
B.—Previously treated cases :								
(i) Glasses lost, broken, or unsuitable.....	3,558	3,991	31	60	4	2	3,593	4,053
(ii) Glasses not being worn ...	1,139	1,199	174	197	60	83	1,373	1,479
Eye conditions .....	88	112	3	3	—	—	91	115
Defective Hearing .....	72	41	4	12	—	1	76	54
Otorrhœa .....	56	44	1	4	1	—	58	48
Other Ear conditions .....	19	77	—	3	—	—	19	20
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ...	2,372	2,353	188	197	47	69	2,607	2,619
Mouth Breathing .....	2,467	2,282	70	104	10	19	2,547	2,405
Defective Teeth :—								
A.—Referred by School Medical Officers .....	1,321	1,515	265	302	89	89	1,675	1,906
B.—Referred by School Dentists	43,010	49,743	—	—	—	—	43,010	49,743
Anæmia and Malnutrition .....	297	248	8	7	—	1	305	256
Skin conditions .....	101	98	—	2	—	—	101	100
Chest .....	160	245	4	3	—	—	164	248
Deformities .....	89	78	3	1	—	—	92	79
Other defects .....	1,083	1,064	45	110	12	25	1,140	1,199
Totals .....	59,840	66,389	1,243	1,451	326	429	61,409	68,269



### **INSPECTION CLINICS.**

55. In addition to the work undertaken by the School Medical Officers at the schools and at the treatment centres, their services were utilised in the examination of absentees, children requiring certificates for employment, and certain special cases at the request of either the parent or the teacher.

These examinations are conducted mainly on Saturday mornings, and during the school holidays at "Inspection Clinics" which, for the convenience of parents, are held at 14 centres distributed over the City. The total number of examinations at these centres during the year was 9,772, of which 7,189 were made at the Central Inspection Clinic at the Education Office.

Children absent from school for any prolonged period are also examined by the School Medical Officers, except such cases as are known to be under regular medical treatment by practitioners or at institutions.

56. The following Table shews the defects from which the children, who were examined with regard to their fitness to attend school, were suffering, along with the total number of examinations made:—

**Table 11.**  
**Examinations of Absentees.**

DEFECT.	Total No. of examina- tions.	Children re-admitted to school.
Ringworm of Scalp ... ..	671	200
Scabies ... ..	1,310	552
Other skin conditions ... ..	114	76
Eye diseases ... ..	80	17
Ear diseases ... ..	15	7
Phthisis and (suspected) Phthisis ... ..	49	9
Other chest conditions ... ..	158	57
Tuberculosis other than Phthisis ... ..	63	33
Injuries and other Crippling Defects ... ..	88	29
Heart ... ..	166	50
Rheumatism ... ..	52	20
Heart and Rheumatism ... ..	63	18
Anæmia and Debility ... ..	290	103
Nervous conditions ... ..	167	47
Other defects ... ..	107	24
No defect found ... ..	12	12
TOTALS ... ..	3,405	1,254

### EXCLUSIONS FROM SCHOOL.

57. The following Table shews the number of children excluded from school by the Medical Officers in the course of their inspections, or at the various treatment Clinics, and the defects for which they were excluded. The numbers for the preceding three years are also given for comparison. It will be observed that the number of cases of scabies has been steadily increasing during the last three years:—

Table 12.

Defect.	1928	1929	1930	1931
Eye diseases ... ..	774	364	298	331
Scabies ... ..	97	120	215	302
Ringworm of body ... ..	12	5	4	21
Ringworm of scalp ... ..	113	96	88	97
Other skin conditions ... ..	176	195	191	231
Infectious diseases ... ..	181	94	100	196
Pediculosis ... ..	8	12	16	12
Chest conditions (non-tuberculous) ...	10	14	86	129
Tuberculosis (all forms) ... ..	7	3	6	10
Otorrhoea ... ..	11	8	14	16
Miscellaneous ... ..	271	265	355	473
TOTALS ... ..	1,660	1,176	1,373	1,818

### UNCLEANLINESS.

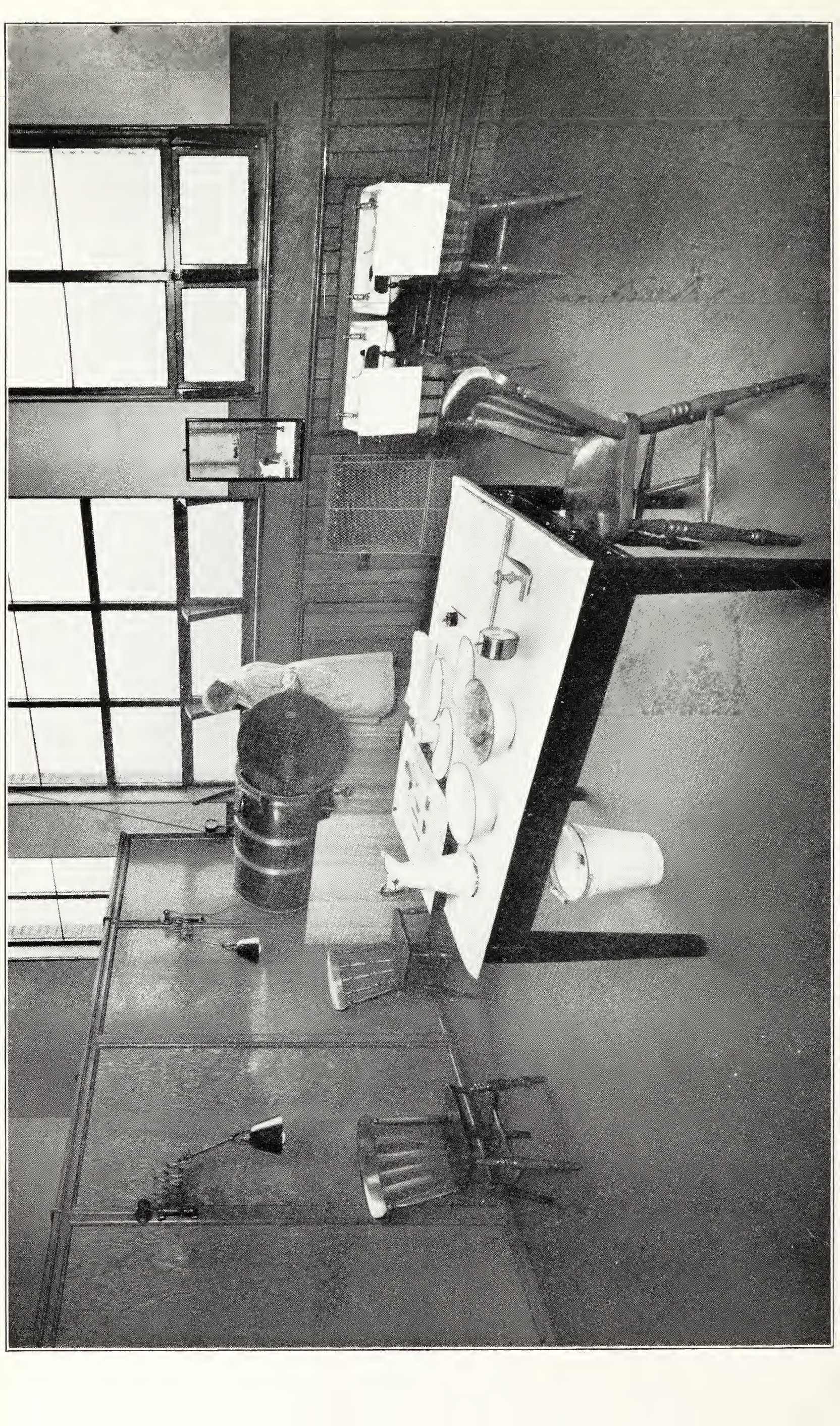
58. Since the early days of Medical Inspection very considerable progress has been made in lessening the prevalence of verminous conditions amongst the children attending the Public Elementary Schools. Early Annual Reports shew that about 20 per cent. of the boys and 75 per cent. of the girls had verminous infection of the heads, and the remedy of this unsatisfactory condition has been one of the most difficult administrative problems encountered. That distinct progress has been made in this direction is evidenced by the fact that the corresponding figures for 1931 were 6·5 per cent. in the case of the boys and 18·83 per cent. in the case of the girls.

Verminous infection of the body or clothing has also been greatly reduced. In the early days boys had verminous bodies or clothing in about 10 per cent., whilst the figure in the case of the girls was about 7·5 per cent., the present figures are ·71 per cent. and ·3 per cent. respectively. Although this is a very material improvement, the condition of affairs is far from satisfactory considering that verminous infection is entirely preventable.











It should be remembered that these figures are the average for the whole City, and that since the children in some of the schools are quite clean, this means that the proportion of cases in other schools is worse than the figures quoted. It has been somewhat surprising to find that the condition of the children attending some of the schools in the new housing area at Norris Green is quite as bad as of those attending the poorer schools in the older congested areas of the City.

59. The Health Committee have shewn their recognition of the difficulties in dealing with this problem by providing in recent years several additional Cleansing Stations which are provided with baths, wash bowls, special combs and an electric disinfector for dealing with infected clothing. This installation has enabled the cleansing to be done more economically, as the old steam disinfectors formerly in use were costly to instal and to operate, and required the presence of an engineer to work them, whereas the electrical disinfector can be quite easily worked by the woman attendant at the Station.

A photograph of one of the more recently opened Cleansing Stations is reproduced on the opposite page. In this picture it was not possible to include two slipper baths which are curtained off on the right of the room. The two lights over the chairs have proved to be very useful in shewing up the nits to the parents, who are instructed how to treat their own children.

60. During the twelve months under consideration the School Nurses made altogether 184,095 examinations *re* cleanliness, and in 13,839 instances the children were found to be verminous or very dirty.

The usual procedure adopted in these cases is to send the parent a printed notice drawing attention to the condition, and giving instructions as to the best remedy. If this intimation is not complied with, a further notice is sent drawing attention to the



legal power which the Authority has to require parents to cleanse their children. In many instances visits are also paid by the Nurses to the homes, and, if there do not appear to be the requisite facilities for home cleansing, the parents are recommended to take their children to the nearest Cleansing Station. In 223 instances, however, these steps proved ineffective, and it was found necessary to serve statutory notices under Section 460 of the Liverpool Corporation Act, 1921, which is similar to Section 87 of the Education Act of 1921 and requires the parents properly to cleanse their children within 24 hours after receipt of such notice.

Of the 223 children in question, the parents complied with this notice in 169 instances, the remaining 54 children being compulsorily cleansed by the staff.

61. With the opening of the Everton Road Clinic in September, an additional Cleansing Station was made available to replace the Birkett Street Station, which was considered to be out of date. There are now altogether five Cleansing Stations. The total number of attendances made at these Stations during the year was 24,718, of which number 12,796 were on account of verminous conditions.

During the winter months, by arrangements with the Baths Committee, 14,845 attendances were made by school children at the various public slipper and spray baths. In addition to this number, the Beacon Street Spray Baths were available all the year round for school children in the neighbourhood, and 7,639 attendances were made at these baths.

### **PROVISION OF MEALS.**

62. Under Sections 82—85 of the Education Act, 1921, free dinners have been provided for necessitous school children on week-days during term time and school holidays. The meals are cooked and served at certain centres, as follows—

**COOKING CENTRES.**

Addison Street Day Industrial School.  
 Queensland Street Senior Special School.  
 The Richmond School, Richmond Terrace.  
 Dingle Lane Special School.  
 Northumberland Street (former) Day Industrial School.  
 Walton Road (former) Day Industrial School.

**DINING CENTRES.**

Addison Street Day Industrial School.  
 Banks Road Council School.  
 Queensland Street Senior Special School.  
 26, Richmond Terrace.  
 Dingle Lane Special School.  
 Northumberland Street (former) Day Industrial School.  
 Chalmers Hall, Westminster Road.  
 St. Titus' Hall, Portland Street.  
 St. Thomas's (old) School, Upper Frederick Street.  
 "Caledonian" (old) School, Oldham Street.  
 St. Aidan's Hall, Commercial Road.  
 "Major Lester," Council School, Sherlock Street.  
 Heyworth Street Council School.  
 Stanley Congregational Church, Green Lane.  
 Norris Green School Meals Centre.

The Whitefield Road Special School, where a Dining Centre was formerly in existence, was closed on 31st March, 1931, as the building was to be demolished for the erection of a new Elementary School on the site. A Dining Centre was opened at No. 26, Richmond Terrace, the meals being cooked and prepared at the adjoining Richmond School.

63. There are six local caterers in the outskirts who supply meals for small groups of children who, owing to distance, cannot attend one of the Committee's main Dining Centres, whilst one residential institution supplies meals for the necessitous children attending the elementary school attached to the institution.

No charge is made to the parents, but meals are not granted if it is considered that the parents are in a position to provide meals at home. Cases in receipt of relief, provided that such relief is not supplementary to Unemployment Insurance Benefit, are notified direct to the Public Assistance Committee, whilst all cases are reviewed from time to time by the Council of Voluntary Aid.

64. The experiment started last year, whereby a limited **Milk Meals** number of children receive milk during the morning school session, has been continued. The milk is only given at schools

where a voluntary milk club is in existence. The total number of milk meals issued to children during the year was 72,038, the average daily number in receipt of milk being 356. The new departure appears to give great satisfaction to the schools participating.

The arrangements with the contractors for the delivery of the milk are not made direct by the Committee, but by the Head Teachers, and the Committee refund monthly to the Milk Clubs the amount expended in respect of these children.

There are 144 schools out of a total of 186 elementary schools in the City in which free meal coupons are being issued to necessitous school children.

The Dining Centres were open on 311 days during the year, and the total number of meals supplied was 590,805, the daily average number of children who received meals being 1,900, or 109 less than the average for 1930.

The weekly number of meals provided varied during the year; the lowest being 6,212 in August, the highest 13,608 in February.

### **SCHOOL PREMISES.**

65. The School Medical Officers, on the completion of their annual routine examinations at the schools, make a report on the conditions of the premises with regard to such items as the efficiency of the heating, lighting, ventilation, condition of playgrounds, etc. When considered necessary, references with regard to any defects found are made to the appropriate quarters.

66. The Surveyor has kindly supplied the following particulars relating to improvements made in connection with Public Elementary Schools during the year 1931.

#### **LIST OF IMPROVEMENTS MADE DURING 1931 IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS.**

##### **Improvement of Natural Lighting.**

“ Roscoe ” School (Garsfield Road)—Roof Lights.

##### **Installation of Electric Lighting in place of Gas Lighting.**

Dovedale Road School.

St. Titus C.E. School.

Much Woolton C.E. School,



**Installation of Electric Lighting in place of Gas Lighting.**

St. Chrysostom's C.E. School.  
 St. Sylvester's R.C. School  
 Garston C.E. School.  
 St. Patrick's R.C. School (Girls' Department).  
 " Florence Melly " School.

**Installation of Electric Lighting.**

Birchfield Road School.

**Improvement of Heating Installations.**

Anfield Road School.  
 St. Hugh's R.C. School.  
 St. Mary's C.E. School, Edge Hill.  
 St. Patrick's R.C. School (Girls' Department).  
 " Major Lester " School.  
 " Warbreck " School, Rice Lane.  
 St. Athanasius' C.E. School.  
 " Roscoe " School, Garsfield Road.  
 St. Elizabeth's R.C. School.  
 Brae Street School.  
 Monksdown Road School.  
 Ranworth Square School.

**Playgrounds Reconstructed.**

" Gilmour " School, Duncombe Road.  
 Aigburth C.E. School.  
 Much Woolton C.E. School.  
 Our Lady Immaculate R.C. School.  
 " Warbreck " School, Rice Lane.  
 Dovedale Road School.  
 Wellington Road School.  
 " Roscoe " School, Garsfield Road.  
 Anfield Road School.  
 " Florence Melly " School.

**Miscellaneous.**

Daisy Street School.	School reconstructed and modernised.
Upper Park Street School.	Do.
St. Patrick's R.C. School.	Large classrooms divided into separate rooms by sliding screens.
St. Michael's Hamlet School.	Re-roofing.
" Breckfield " School, Granton Road.	Removal of galleries and re-flooring.
Broadgreen Road School.	Do.
Northway School.	Re-flooring only.
St. Peter's C.E. School.	Do.
" Morrison " School.	Do.

67. The District Sanitary Inspectors make fortnightly visits to all the Public Elementary Schools for the purpose of examining the sanitary arrangements and the water supply. During the

year, 131 defects were discovered, and notices relating to these defects were sent to the Corporation Surveyor, or the Managers of the Schools.

VACCINATION.

68. The following table shews the proportion of vaccinated and unvaccinated children in the Public Elementary and Higher Schools, and the relative degree of immunity of those vaccinated as evidenced by the number of marks present.

The percentages of unvaccinated children in the Public Elementary School in the preceding five years were 19·1, 18·9, 18·7, 18·4, and 16·9, respectively; the corresponding figures for the children attending the Higher Schools were 19·4, 19·4, 18·5, 9·6, and 10·5.

Table 13.

Code Group.	Number examined.	Vaccinated.					Not Vaccinated.
		One mark.	Two marks.	Three marks.	Four marks.	Total.	
<b>Public Elementary Schools.</b>							
Entrants ... ..	16,264	18·4%	14·5%	3·7%	41·0%	77·6%	22·4%
Intermediates ...	14,759	18·6%	10·2%	4·9%	46·0%	79·7%	20·3%
Leavers ... ..	10,248	20·7%	9·3%	4·9%	46·6%	81·5%	18·5%
Total ... ..	41,271	19·0%	11·7%	4·5%	44·2%	79·4%	20·6%
<b>Higher Schools.</b>							
All ages ... ..	6,299	23·7%	26·8%	8·8%	24·1%	83·4%	16·6%

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

69. Full provision exists for the education of all blind children, who are taught either as boarders or day scholars, as indicated in the accompanying table:—

School.	Boarders.	Day Scholars.
Wavertree School for the Blind ... ..	12	6
Catholic Blind Asylum, Brunswick Road ...	9	—
Taught privately ... ..	—	2

Schools for the Blind

70. Four Defective Vision Classes are now maintained, viz., at Birchfield Road Council, St. James's Council and Christ Church C.E. elementary schools and Underlea Day Open-Air School. The number on the rolls of these centres at the end of the year was 115, the average attendance being 98·2. The classes are under the direct supervision of the Head Teachers of the schools, and are taught by special teachers. **Sight-saving Classes**

71. To meet the needs of defective-sighted children living in the south end of the City, advantage was taken of the fact that on the first floor of the administrative block of the Underlea School, there was a large bright room with an extensive view over the river to the Welsh mountains admirably suited for the purpose, and a special class was opened there in May. The children attend from 9 to 4, and are provided with a mid-day meal along with the delicate children.

Many of these defective-sighted children are not so physically strong as they might be, and during the summer months it will be possible, with advantage to their general health, for them to undertake some of their lessons in the grounds under open-air conditions.

72. The children in these classes have all the advantages of the corporate life of the school.

The work of the classes has continued on the lines fully detailed in last year's Report.

There can be no doubt as to the value of these Classes in providing education in a form suitable for children with seriously defective vision. Such children were formerly set aside and not catered for, and a sense of inferiority and peculiarity often resulted, but now they develop self reliance and self confidence. The difficulty in finding suitable work for such children on leaving school is rather a problem, but the Special Schools Employment Officer, after a conference with the Oculist as to the particular requirements of a pupil, is often able to find some work suitable to the individual case.

73. The following table shews in detail the ocular defects found in children attending the Sight-saving Classes. It will be observed that, as in previous years, 50 per cent. of the children suffer from myopia.



Table 14.  
Classification of Ocular Defects.

Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Myopia with nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Myopia with coloboma of choroids	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Optic atrophy—acquired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Optic atrophy—hereditary	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Optic atrophy with choroiditis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Optic atrophy one eye; effects of ophthalmia neonatorum other eye	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Albinism	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Interstitial keratitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Kerato-irido-cyclitis with buphthalmos	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum, effects of	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Corneal opacities—(?) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cataract	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Choroiditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Choroiditis and congenital cataract, one eye; myopia other eye	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Buphthalmos	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dislocated lenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Nystagmus associated with high Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nystagmus associated with no marked fundal trouble or high error of refraction	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Corneal Nebulae	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total							115

Schools for  
the Deaf

74. With regard to the education of the deaf, the Committee have one Day School with 148 scholars on roll, 99 of these being Liverpool children, of whom 17 are boarded by the Committee in the Institution for the Deaf close to the Day School. There are also 49 children from other areas resident at the Institution who receive their education at the Day School. The Committee also pay for the board and education of certain Roman Catholic deaf children at Boston Spa; at the end of the year, there were seven Liverpool children boarded there, and one day scholar.

M.D. and P.D.  
Schools

75. The accompanying return shews the results of the examinations made by the Certifying Officers for the ascertainment of Mentally and Physically Defective Children during the year:—

**Table 15.**

	Referred as Physically Defective.	Referred as Mentally Defective.
Passed for M.D. Schools—Day ... ..	—	161
„ „ „ Residential ... ..	—	8
Passed for P.D. Schools—Day ... ..	198	25
„ „ „ Residential ... ..	135	15
To remain in ordinary schools ... ..	35	84
Postponed for further trial in ordinary school or for treatment ... ..	34	339
Unsuitable for any school, M.D. ... ..	1	10
„ „ „ P.D. ... ..	11	—
Private Tuition ... ..	2	2
Referred for Mental examination ... ..	3	—
Referred for Stammerers Class ... ..	—	1
Total number of children examined ... ..	419	645

**CASES NOTIFIED TO THE LANCASHIRE MENTAL HOSPITALS BOARD  
DURING THE YEAR.**

1. (i) Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a Special School :	
(a) Idiots ... ..	3
(b) Imbeciles ... ..	37
(ii) Children unable to be instructed in a Special School without detriment to the interests of the other children :	
(a) Moral defectives ... ..	—
(b) Others ... ..	4
2. Feeble-minded children notified on leaving Special Schools on or before attaining the age of 16 years ... ..	74
3. Feeble-minded children notified as “special circumstances” cases ... ..	1
TOTAL ... ..	119

76. In addition to the examination of new cases referred for the purpose of ascertainment, the children attending the schools for the mentally defective and physically defective were examined as to their suitability for continuance in attendance, as required by the Education Act of 1921, the number of such examinations being 2,374. In addition, 1,862 examinations were made by the School Medical Officers during the course of the year.

77. The following table shews (a) the accommodation, number on rolls, and the average attendance in the various grades of Special Schools provided by the Committee; and (b) the number of admissions and withdrawals during the year:—

(a)

**Table 16.**

Schools.	Accommoda- tion.	No. on Rolls Dec., 1931.	Average Attendance. Dec., 1931.
Mentally Defective (day) ... ..	820	852	706·1
Physically Defective (day) ... ..	666	666	541·3
Physically Defective (residential) ...	68	68	68·0
Partially Blind ... ..	140	115	93·9
Deaf ... ..	200	148	126·1

(b)

	M.D.	P.D.	Deaf.	Partially Blind.
ADMISSIONS AND RE-ADMISSIONS ...	216	388	14	29
WITHDRAWALS—				
De-certified :—				
At 16 years ... ..	41	36	18	16
Under 16 years ... ..	7	193	—	1
Notified to Mental Deficiency Authority—				
At 16 years ... ..	65	—	—	—
Under 16 years ... ..	19	—	—	—
Excused attendance ... ..	12	3	1	9
Transferred to Residential M.D. School ... ..	8	—	—	—
Excluded on medical grounds ...	34	71	1	—
Attending Private Schools ...	2	1	—	—
Left City ... ..	7	7	—	1
Died ... ..	1	2	1	—
Committed to Home Office Schools	3	2	—	1
	199	315	21	28



There were, at the end of the year, eight Day Special Schools. Of these, three were double centres for physically and mentally defective children, three were schools for mentally defectives only, and two were open-air schools for delicate children. There was also one residential country school at Woolton Vale for delicate children.

78. Two new Special Schools were opened this year—the Margaret Beavan Open-Air School in January, for Physically Defective and Delicate children; and, in April, the Richmond School, for Mentally Defective Boys and Girls. These schools were opened to replace the old Whitefield Road Special School for Physically and Mentally defective children, the site of this school being required for the purpose of an ordinary elementary school. The change, however, has resulted in an increase in the number of places for each type of child.

79. The Margaret Beavan Open-Air School, which is situated in West Derby, and has accommodation for 180 children, comprises a large house in the grounds which has been adapted for administrative purposes, and open-air classrooms built in the grounds, but connected with the house by covered ways.

**Margaret  
Beavan  
School**

As two-thirds of the children to be provided for suffer from crippling defects or heart trouble, it was considered necessary to provide a rather more elaborate type of classroom than is usually erected in open-air schools, since these children are not so suited for continuous open-air conditions as are the type of children who are usually treated under open-air conditions. The classrooms erected are of the "twin" type, with Essavian windows on three sides, and are heated by the low pressure hot water system. In each pair, the dividing wall between the two rooms is a movable partition, so that the two can very quickly be formed into one large room with windows on four sides.

Apart from this, the school is similar in type to the Underlea Day Open-Air School, and follows the same daily routine. The children have three meals per day—light breakfast, two-course

dinner, and tea. Rest beds are provided for the after-dinner rest, and each child has a separate towel, brush, comb, and toothbrush, so that training in personal hygiene is given daily.

Such training is greatly facilitated by the well equipped and easily supervised cloakrooms, lavatories, and spray bathrooms, adapted from the original outhouse accommodation attached to the main building.

As many of the physically defective boys remain at the school till the age of 16, a well-equipped workroom, where woodwork and boot-repairing are taught, has been made from the old billiard room of the house, light and ventilation having been increased by placing three French windows on the southerly wall.

There are ample grounds in which the children can play and follow outdoor projects; and the large kitchen garden supplies green vegetables for meals, and ample space for the children's own gardening.

Special buses bring most of the children to school, but a certain number arrive by tramcar.

#### **Richmond School**

80. The Richmond School provides accommodation for 150 mentally defective junior boys and girls and senior girls. This school is of the semi-open-air type, with windows on two sides of the classrooms, which overlook on one side a pleasant, turfed quadrangle, and on the other, the playgrounds. The quadrangle is formed by the covered ways which connect the row of classrooms with the houses, which have been adapted for teaching and administrative purposes. Between two of these houses a fine hall has been built, which is used for dining purposes, and for such lessons as singing, folk dancing, and physical exercises.

A special feature of this school is the provision of a well-equipped room for the teaching of cookery and laundry, and the use of three of the rooms in one of the houses as a small flat, where the girls can have training in housewifery. This is most valuable training for senior mentally defective girls.



81. The Day Open-Air School at Underlea for delicate children, **Underlea** which was opened in May, 1930, has proved to be most popular both with parents and children. Accommodation has been provided for 150 children, and 102 new children were admitted during the year, whilst 103 were discharged after an average stay of 13 months. The percentage attendance for the year was 84, which may be regarded as quite satisfactory, having regard to the fact that all these children are delicate and many of them attended their previous schools very irregularly and some not at all on account of their ill-health.

An additional open-air classroom of the Chalet type was built during the summer.

The experience of the bad weather during the winter months shewed the desirability of fitting casement windows to all four sides of the chalets, and this was done in March, and proved a distinct improvement as not only could the interior of the chalets be kept dry when not in use, but also this improvement made it possible to warm up the walls and floors thoroughly prior to the admission of the children, when the windows were opened, and the children benefited by the radiant heat previously absorbed.

82. Miss Anderson, the Head Mistress, reports that the year opened with a severe frost, during which time the amount of written work had to be materially reduced.

The children are very much interested in the gardens and in the domestic pets which have been presented to the school. They have also been fortunate in having secured the loan of a donkey, which gives them considerable enjoyment during their recreation time.

During the year, visits to places of interest, which were of educational value, have been paid, e.g., Garston Docks, Otterspool Farm, etc.



A vacation school was again maintained during the summer holidays, 99 children being enrolled, with an average attendance of 76. Picnics were organised in the adjacent parks and woods, and excursions made to Port Sunlight, Aigburth Zoo, Bryant and May's Works, etc.

Woolton Vale  
Country  
School

83. During the year, 195 children were in attendance, and the following were the defects for which they were admitted:—

General debility	...	...	...	...	...	162
Healed T.B. Cases	...	...	...	...	...	13
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cardiac	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	5
Talipes	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/> 195

Of 130 children who were discharged, 76 were able to return to the Public Elementary School, 35 were recommended for admission to the Day Open-Air School, 15 were transferred to the Physically Defective School, whilst 4 were certified as suitable for education only in the Mentally Defective School.

Dental treatment was given to 105 children on entry to the school, whilst 12 per cent. of the children were found to have Defective Vision, and were treated under the Committee's Scheme.

84. Miss Shepherd, the Head Mistress, reports that on the whole the children admitted were more delicate than in the previous years, and the proportion of younger children was larger than formerly. Their average gain in weight was 8½lbs.—a very satisfactory result. Half of the children on admission were found to have verminous heads. The average length of stay was only 4½ months, which was shorter than in previous years mainly owing to the fact than 8 cases of Diphtheria had occurred, which necessitated the cessation of admission, and the earlier discharge of the cases in residence.

The school work was continued on similar lines to the previous years, the children being particularly interested in gardening and nature study. The Scout, Girl Guides, Cub and Brownie meetings, which had been inaugurated the previous year, continued, and proved to be a very popular source of interest to the children.

85. For the last five years, the Committee have maintained 30 **Torpenhow** beds at Torpenhow, The Liverpool Chest Hospital's Residential Open-Air School, situated at Frankby, Wirral. During the year, 60 were admitted and 60 discharged, the majority of the children remaining at the school for six months. On the average, the children gained  $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in weight and  $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in height, whilst their chest expansion increased by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Miss Anson, the Matron, states that the school is fortunate in having obtained the interest of the Hoylake branch of Toc H., members of which come to the school every Saturday afternoon and instruct the boys in their outdoor games, which they thoroughly enjoy. Some of the former pupils come back on fine Saturday afternoons, and participate with the resident pupils in their games. At the last Annual Re-Union Day (held in June), 150 old pupils visited the school, and took part in the sports.

86. In addition to the special schools and the accommodation **Other Residential Accommodation** provided at Torpenhow, the Committee maintain three beds at the West Kirby Convalescent Home, and six beds at the Liverpool School of Recovery (mainly heart cases), and they have secured the option of places at the Maghull Home for Epileptics. During the course of the year, four cases have been in residence at West Kirby, and eight at the School of Recovery, whilst twelve cases have been maintained at the Home for Epileptics.

The Committee have found it necessary to secure places for certain mentally defective children in Residential Special Schools, and during the year 26 defectives were maintained at "Pontville" Roman Catholic Special School, Ormskirk, 8 at Allerton Priory Roman Catholic Special School, Woolton, and 4 at Dovecot Horticultural School for Mentally Defective Girls, Knotty Ash.

Epileptics

87. From Table III, Appendix A, under the heading Epileptics, it will be seen that the number of such cases known to the Department was 100, of which number, 26 suffering from severe epilepsy were at no school or institution.

Dental Treatment.

88. The following table shews the work carried out in connection with the Special and Industrial Schools by the Dental Staff of the School Medical Sub-Committee during the year:—

Table 17.

	Industrial Schools.	Special Schools.	Total.
No. of inspection sessions ... ..	3	9	12
No. of treatment sessions ... ..	36	92	128
Total No. of sessions ... ..	39	101	140
No. of children inspected ... ..	452	911	1,363
No. of children requiring treatment ... ..	342 (68·1%)	729 (80·0%)	1,071 (78·5%)
No. of children treated ... ..	233	890	1,123
No. of attendances made for treatment ... ..	302	995	1,297
No. of teeth extracted ... ..	375	1,635	2,010
No. of teeth filled ... ..	133	379	512
No. of other operations ... ..	8	24	32
No. of administrations of general anæsthetic ...	177	693	870

89. The high rate of acceptances for the Special Schools, upon which comment has been made in previous years, has shewn even further improvement, having risen from 70·4 per cent. to 78·2 per cent., the corresponding figure for the year for the Public Elementary Schools being 36·2 per cent. In four of the Special Schools an acceptance was received for practically every child found to require treatment. This highly satisfactory result reflects the greatest credit, not only on the parents, but also on the teaching staff of the schools. Owing to the readiness of the parents of these children to accept treatment when offered,



it has been possible to establish and maintain a high degree of dental fitness; whilst it has been noticed that in such children for whom treatment has been carried out regularly, the amount of work necessary to be done in each mouth is decreasing year by year. As in previous years, treatment has been carried out on the school premises, with the exception of cases from Crown Street School for the Deaf which have been treated in the Elementary School Clinic at the Dental Hospital.

In accordance with the requirements of the Home Office, quarterly visits were paid to the Industrial Schools, and the opportunity was taken at these visits to put in order the mouths of new entrants as soon as possible after their admission to the school.

### HIGHER SCHOOLS.

90. The following Table gives the number of Higher Schools at which arrangements are in force for both medical inspection and treatment:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Mixed.
<b>Provided.</b>			
(1) Secondary Schools ... ..	4	5	2
(2) Technical Schools ... ..	3	1	*1
<b>Not Provided, but aided.</b>			
(1) Secondary Schools ... ..	2	2	—
(2) Technical Schools ... ..	—	—	—
<b>Neither Provided nor aided</b> ... ..	—	—	—

\* Junior Section of the School of Art.

91. The arrangements for the medical inspections at Higher Schools are as follows:—All pupils have a full routine examination during their term of entry, and again annually after the age of 12. All cases found to have defects are re-inspected twice annually with regard to the particular defects. Special cases may be brought to the doctors on any of their visits.

92. There is no following-up carried out at the homes, but the Head Teachers keep in touch with the parents with regard to the remedying of defects requiring treatment.

With the exception of dental treatment, all the forms of treatment which have been provided for the children in the Public Elementary Schools are available for the pupils attending the Higher Schools whose parents are unable to afford private treatment. The arrangements for recovering the charge for treatment are that the parents, having signed an agreement form to pay the sum required, transmit the fee to the Head Teacher, who forwards it to the Education Office.

In the case of pupils with defective sight whose parents cannot quite afford the full fee of a private specialist, certain of the eye specialists have agreed to treat them at a modified fee.

93. The number of medical examinations made in the Higher Schools were as follows:—

6,725 routine cases;  
6,886 re-inspection cases;  
302 special cases.

The proportion of pupils requiring treatment found at the routine examinations was 15·2 per cent., defective vision, dental defects and minor deformities being the most common defects found.

Defective eyesight was noted in about 27 per cent. of the pupils, but approximately three-quarters of these had already been treated for this defect. Contrary to the experience in connection with the Public Elementary Schools, very little difficulty is met with in the Higher Schools in securing the regular wearing of glasses.

There is evidence of much more attention being given to the teeth of these pupils than in the case of the children in the Public Elementary Schools, and many of the pupils pay regular visits to their dentists.

94. The heights and weights of the routine cases at each school have been recorded by the gymnastic instructor, where there is such an official, and in the other cases by the School Medical Officers, and the following Table shews the results in inches and pounds respectively:--

**Table 18.**

Age.	Boys.			GIRLS.		
	Number examined.	Height.	Weight.	Number examined.	Height.	Weight.
8	14	50·1	55·0	44	51·0	58·5
9	17	51·7	58·4	35	51·5	61·2
10	34	54·4	66·7	37	53·9	69·3
11	172	55·8	71·5	234	55·8	76·0
12	209	57·9	79·4	322	57·3	83·5
13	261	58·8	85·1	367	60·4	95·5
14	412	60·9	96·6	445	60·6	102·1
15	362	63·9	108·4	357	62·5	111·9

### **EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.**

95. There were at the end of the year 1,401 school children (1,324 boys and 77 girls) who were employed out of school hours, 948 of these children being engaged in delivering milk or newspapers. Full particulars (by trades) of the children employed are shewn in Table 19.



Table 19.

## Employment of School Children out of School Hours.

TRADE.	No. of cases on Register 31.12.30	No. of new cases added to Register during the year.			No. of cases with-drawn from Register during the year.			No. of cases remaining on the Register, 31.12.31.		
		Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL
Bakers and Confectioners...	46	59	6	65	55	5	60	47	4	51
Butchers ... ..	64	58	—	58	71	—	71	51	—	51
Bootmakers and Repairers	11	14	—	14	11	—	11	14	—	14
Chemists ... ..	4	9	—	9	5	—	5	8	—	8
Chandlers ... ..	72	60	1	61	70	1	71	62	—	62
Chipped Potato Vendors ...	—	2	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—
Coal Merchants ... ..	2	4	—	4	3	—	3	3	—	3
Drapers, etc. ... ..	2	4	—	4	3	—	3	3	—	3
Dealers—General ... ..	13	13	1	14	13	1	14	12	1	13
Dealers—Firewood ... ..	4	5	1	6	4	—	4	5	1	6
Domestic Helpers ... ..	1	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	1	2
Fish and Poultry Dealers...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Grocers ... ..	30	40	—	40	31	1	32	37	1	38
Greengrocers ... ..	167	186	4	190	195	4	199	156	2	158
Ironmongers ... ..	1	3	—	3	1	—	1	3	—	3
Milk Dealers ... ..	348	264	27	291	335	32	367	244	28	272
Newsagents ... ..	683	809	30	839	819	27	846	639	37	676
Various ... ..	30	38	2	40	29	1	30	38	2	40
TOTALS ... ..	*1,478	1,570	73	1,643	1,648	72	1,720	1,324	77	1,401†

\*1,402 boys and 76 girls,

†1,324 boys and 77 girls.

96. In the case of those employments which necessitate work before the close of school hours, the children undertaking such work have to be examined by the School Medical Officers and certified as physically fit before a certificate is granted. For this purpose there were examined 966 children, and all but four were found to be fit. All children, whether working before the close of school hours or after, require to have employment cards, which are issued by the Education Committee, and these children are kept under supervision by the School Medical Officers on their visits to the schools. The part-time employment, which, under the local Bye-laws, is limited to two hours on school days and five hours on Saturdays and school holidays, seldom has any adverse effect upon their health, but occasionally it has been found advisable to recommend the giving up of work on the grounds of health.

97. With the object of seeing that the Bye-laws are complied with, two special officers, appointed by the Education Committee, are engaged in patrolling the streets between the hours of 6-45 a.m. and 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. daily, and on Saturdays and Sundays. The Attendance Officers, Police and Health Visitors also co-operate in this work.

During the year, 359 employers were warned by the Committee's Officer for infringement of the provisions of the Bye-laws, and in 25 cases it was necessary to prosecute. In 20 cases fines were inflicted, and the remaining 5 cases were discharged with a caution.

A certain number of children of school age are employed in connection with theatrical performances. Two of these children went on tour. The Committee is reluctant to grant licences which necessitate absence from the children's own schools.

**Theatrical  
Licences**

The number of children employed in connection with theatrical performances has been greatly reduced. There were only 10 licences issued by the Education Authority during the year, against 158 for the year 1929, which is the highest figure reached.

A notification of licensed children appearing in public performances in Liverpool is sent to the Chief Constable, and the Police Authorities co-operate in the supervision of the children, and report to the Director any irregularity, which is immediately dealt with.

The total number of children who appeared at the local theatres or picturedromes was 57, as against 74 in the preceding twelve months, the great majority of these having been licensed by other Authorities. All such children are visited by a special officer, who pays visits to the theatres to see that the rules and orders of the Board of Education are complied with.

It will, therefore, be seen that as far as is possible, under the existing powers of the Authority, the health interests of every child are carefully guarded.

**Juvenile  
Employment  
Bureau**

98. As compared with the previous year, openings for juveniles in the local industries were fewer, with the result that considerable difficulty has been experienced by boys and girls, more particularly those over 16 years of age, in securing employment. The decrease in the birth rate during the War years has made itself felt during this year, and is evidenced by the fact that the number of children leaving the elementary schools was 1,330 lower than that for last year. Of those who left school during the year, 9,464 boys and girls registered for employment at the Bureau. This figure represents 82 per cent. of the total school leavers, and approximately half of them were placed in their first situation by the Bureau on leaving school.

During the year 3,710 boys and 4,925 girls, a total of 8,635, have been placed in employment by the Juvenile Employment Bureau, this total being a reduction of 534 as compared with the previous year. There has also been a reduction in the number of vacancies notified by employers, 9,975 having been notified to the Bureau this year, as compared with 10,378 during last year.



99. Notwithstanding the restricted demand for juvenile labour generally, it is pleasing to be able to report increased activity in the section of the Bureau dealing specifically with children from Special Schools and Defective Vision Classes. Conferences, at which the Medical Officer concerned and the Assistant Employment Officer for Special Schools were present, have been held at these schools towards the end of each term, and during the year 221 mentally and physically defective children have been given advice, and have been registered for employment. By reason of the continued depression in industry it has been extremely difficult to secure openings for subnormal children, but, despite this, openings were obtained for 109 juveniles (27 boys and 82 girls) during the year. The Committee are hopeful that the arrangements recently completed by the Ministry of Labour, whereby in certain trades coming under the purview of the Trades Board the employment of infirm children is permitted for a limited period pending the grant of a Permit of Exemption, will be the means of enabling more openings to be secured for children educated and trained at Special Schools.

100. During the year, the economic difficulties, both in this Country and the Dominions, had the effect of seriously curtailing the operation of Government Migration Schemes, and it was only possible to train one party of boys at the "Williamson" Hostel. In all 32 boys were accepted for training during the early part of the year; of these 26 sailed to Canada with the grant of a free passage from Imperial sources. It is of interest to report, however, that the facilities for farm training at the "Williamson" Hostel were utilized in favour of a scheme, approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, for the training of a party of boys for subsequent placing on farms in this country, and during the months April to July, 1931, the Hostel was devoted to this purpose. Thirty-eight boys were admitted for training under this scheme; 24 of them completed the allotted course of approximately three months and were placed on farms in Lancashire. The Juvenile Employment Committee are following the progress of

these boys with considerable interest, and it is understood that, if the results of training under the scheme meet with the satisfaction of the Ministry of Agriculture, there is a strong probability of the Ministry authorising the experiment to be repeated during the ensuing year. Reports obtained after the boys had been employed on farms for at least three months have on the whole been most encouraging.

101. The services of the School Medical Officers and the records of the Medical Department continue to be an integral part of the Local Education Authority's scheme for advising and placing juveniles in employment, and have proved specially valuable in the selection of boys for home farm training and their approval on physical grounds for agricultural work.

W. M. FRAZER,

MEDICAL OFFICER TO THE EDUCATION  
AUTHORITY.

APPENDIX A.**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.****TABLE I.****RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS****A.—Routine Medical Inspections****NUMBER OF CODE GROUP INSPECTIONS :—**

Entrants	...	.	...	...	...	..	.	...	16,502
Intermediates	..	..	..	.	.	.	.	...	14,979
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	10,420
TOTAL									<u>41,901</u>

**NUMBER OF OTHER ROUTINE INSPECTIONS :—**

Public Elementary Schools	...	..	...	...	.	...	352
Special Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	491

**B.—Other Inspections.****i. PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS :—**

Number of Special Inspections	..	.	..	.	...	14,206
Number of Re-inspections	..	...	...	...	...	<u>62,097</u>
TOTAL						<u>*76,303</u>

**ii. SPECIAL SCHOOLS :—**

Number of Special Inspections	..	...	..	...	...	54
Number of Re-inspections	..	...	...	...	...	<u>1,317</u>
TOTAL						<u>1,371</u>

\* Not including children examined at Minor Ailments Clinics.



# **ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.** **TABLE II.**

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended  
31st December, 1931.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	Number of Defects.		Number of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
MALNUTRITION ... ..	89	140	32	23
UNCLEANLINESS ... ..	See Table IV, Group V.			
SKIN—				
Ringworm—				
Scalp ... ..	14	—	142	—
*Body ... ..	16	—	9	—
Scabies ... ..	22	—	615	—
*Impetigo ... ..	77	—	84	—
*Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)...	193	170	84	55
EYE—				
*Blepharitis ... ..	176	152	97	46
*Conjunctivitis ... ..	80	34	68	16
*Keratitis ... ..	9	—	6	—
*Corneal Ulcer... ..	13	—	19	—
Corneal Opacities ... ..	—	34	—	5
Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	1,796	2,364	3,411	389
Squint... ..	871	1,000	1,760	98
Other Conditions ... ..	32	72	51	22
EAR—				
Defective Hearing ... ..	71	151	67	53
Otitis Media ... ..	269	466	73	57
Other Ear Diseases ... ..	91	38	55	13
NOSE AND THROAT—				
Enlarged Tonsils only ... ..	638	2,885	338	313
Adenoids only ... ..	73	123	100	34
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ... ..	176	211	217	23
Other Conditions ... ..	395	317	150	75
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	31	372	24	65
DEFECTIVE SPEECH ... ..	83	277	59	109
‡TEETH (Dental Diseases) ... ..	1,388	1,420	269	170

\* Exclusive of children examined at the Minor Ailments Clinics.

‡ Cases examined by the School Medical Officers.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

TABLE II.—Continued.

DEFECT OR DISEASE,  (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	Number of Defects.		Number of Defects.	
	Requiring Treat- ment.  (2)	Requiring to be kept under observ- ation, but not requiring Treat- ment. (3)	Requiring Treat- ment.  (4)	Requiring to be kept under observ- ation, but not requiring Treat- ment. (5)
HEART AND CIRCULATION—				
Heart Disease—				
Organic ... ..	8	142	5	55
Functional ... ..	2	948	3	180
Anaemia ... ..	277	387	143	60
LUNGS—				
Bronchitis ... ..	372	1,344	102	185
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ...	36	338	23	108
§TUBERCULOSIS—				
Pulmonary—				
Definite ... ..	—	2	13	2
Suspected ... ..	—	—	11	—
Non-Pulmonary—				
Glands ... ..	2	50	10	37
Spine ... ..	—	5	2	—
Hip ... ..	—	8	1	1
Other Bones and Joints ...	—	22	7	5
Skin ... ..	2	9	2	3
Other Forms ... ..	2	61	7	14
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
Epilepsy ... ..	7	37	9	11
Chorea... ..	64	—	123	—
Other Conditions ... ..	59	124	56	48
DEFORMITIES—				
Rickets ... ..	36	135	16	7
Spinal Curvature ... ..	17	14	4	1
Other Forms ... ..	65	107	16	17
DEBILITY ... ..	541	876	374	183
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES ...	719	1,294	558	456

§ Under the heading "Tuberculosis" most of the cases in columns (3) and (5) are cases in which the disease is quiescent but is not yet considered cured.

# **ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**

## **TABLE II.—Continued.**

B.—Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group.  (1)	NUMBER OF CHILDREN		Percentage of children requiring treatment.  (4)
	Inspected.  (2)	Requiring treatment.  (3)	
CODE GROUPS :			
Entrants ... ..	16,502	2,836	17·2
Intermediates ... ..	14,979	2,626	17·5
Leavers ... ..	10,420	1,883	18·1
TOTAL (Code Groups) ... ..	41,901	7,345	17·5
Other routine inspections ... ..	352	70	19·9



**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.****TABLE III.**

Numerical Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area  
at the end of 1931.

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
<b>BLIND</b> (including partially blind).	(i) Suitable for training in a School for the totally blind.	At Certified Schools for the Blind ... ..	15	11	26
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ... ..	1	—	1
		At no School or Institution ... ..	3*	1	4
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School for the partially blind.	At Certified Schools for the Blind or Partially Blind... ..	59	56	115
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	24	21	45
		At other Institutions ... ..	—	1	1
		At no School of Institution ... ..	1	—	1
<b>DEAF</b> (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf).	(i) Suitable for training in a School for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	At Certified Schools for the Deaf ... ..	52	47	99
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ... ..	—	1	1
		At no School or Institution ... ..	1	2	3
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School for the partially deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Deaf or Partially Deaf ... ..	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	41	45	86
		At other Institutions ... ..	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ... ..	—	—	—
<b>MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.</b>	Feeble-minded ...	At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... ..	520	350	870
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	32	26	58†
		At other Institutions ... ..	20	10	30†
		At no School or Institution ... ..	30	23	53†
<b>EPILEPTICS.</b>	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	At Certified Schools for Epileptics ... ..	6	3	9
		At Certified Day Special Schools ... ..	6	5	11
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools ... ..	4	8	12
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	1	—	1
		At other Institutions ... ..	5	—	5
		At no School or Institution ... ..	13	13	26
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	26†	9	35†
		At no School or Institution ... ..	—	1	1

\* 2 of these children were receiving private tuition.

† A number of these cases have not yet been examined by the Certifying Medical Officer.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**  
**TABLE III.—Continued.**

			Boys.	Girls.	Total
<b>PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE</b>	<b>Active pulmonary tuberculosis (including pleura and intrathoracic glands)</b>	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ... ..	{ 63 (4)	{ 54 (1)	{ 117 (5)
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ... ..	—	2	2
		At no School or Institution ... ..	30	24	54
	<b>Quiescent or arrested pulmonary tuberculosis (including pleura and intrathoracic glands).</b>	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ... ..	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools...	—	2	2
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools...	2	5	7
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	123	100	223
		At other Institutions ... ..	—	3	3
		At no School or Institution ... ..	14	16	30
	<b>Tuberculosis of the peripheral glands.</b>	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ... ..	7	6	13
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	4	4	8
		At other Institutions ... ..	—	1	1
		At no School or Institution ... ..	12	11	23
	<b>Abdominal tuberculosis.</b>	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ... ..	7 (1)	4 (1)	11 (2)
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	2	—	2
		At other Institutions ... ..	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution ... ..	7	7	14
	<b>Tuberculosis of bones and joints (not including deformities due to old tuberculosis).</b>	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	30	27	57
		At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ... ..	{ 12	10 (1)	22 (1)
		At no School or Institution ... ..	11	8	19

The numbers shewn within brackets refer to cases diagnosed by the Staffs of certain Institutions but not seen subsequently by the authority's Medical Staff. These numbers are included in the totals.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.****TABLE III—continued.**

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
<b>PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE</b> (continued).	<b>Tuberculosis of other organs (skin, etc.).</b>	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board ...	2	—	2
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	7	8	15
		At other Institutions ...	3	—	3
		At no School or Institution ...	3	—	3
	<b>Delicate Children, i.e., all children (except those included in other groups) whose general health renders it desirable that they should be specially selected for admission to an Open Air School.</b>	At Certified Residential Cripple Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ...	24	21	45
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	45	56	101
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	102	105	207
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	321	290	611
		At other Institutions ...	37	31	68
		At no School or Institution ...	22	34	56
	<b>Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculous disease) who are suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere materially with a child's normal mode of life.</b>	At Certified Hospital Schools ...	5	1	6
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ...	159	114	273
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	3	—	3
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	9	4	13
		At other Institutions ...	18	16	34
		At no School or Institution ...	{ 25 (2)	19 (—)	44 (2)
	<b>Children with heart disease, i.e., children whose defect is so severe as to necessitate the provision of educational facilities other than those of the public elementary school.</b>	At Certified Hospital Schools ...	{ 3 (—)	11 (1)	14 (1)
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools ...	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools ...	43	58	101
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools ...	—	2	2
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools ...	—	2	2
		At Public Elementary Schools ...	2	1	3
		At other Institutions ...	3	8	11
		At no School or Institution ...	{ 17 (—)	36 (1)	53 (1)

The numbers shewn within brackets refer to cases diagnosed by the Staffs of certain Institutions but not seen subsequently by the Authority's Medical Staff. These numbers are included in the totals.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

TABLE III—continued.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS AND THE TYPE OF SCHOOL, IF ANY,  
ATTENDED.

Combination of Defects.	School attended, etc.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Total Blindness and Epilepsy ...	At no School or Institution ... ..	1	1	2
Total Deafness and Mental Defect...	At Certified School for the Deaf ... ..	—	1	1
Total Deafness and Active Tuberculosis ... ..	At no School or Institution ... ..	1	—	1
Mental Defect and Epilepsy ...	At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... ..	4	3	7
	At no School or Institution ... ..	4	2	6
Mental Defect and Active Tuberculosis ... ..	At Sanatorium ... ..	—	1	1
Mental Defect and Crippling ...	At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... ..	8	9	17
	At other Institutions ... ..	1	1	2
	At no School or Institution ... ..	3	7	10
Mental Defect and Heart Disease...	At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... ..	1	—	1
Epilepsy and Crippling ... ..	At Certified Day Cripple Schools ... ..	1	—	1
	At no School or Institution ... ..	3	1	4
Crippling and Heart Disease ...	At Certified Day Cripple Schools ... ..	1	1	2
	At no School or Institution ... ..	—	1	1
	TOTALS ...	28	28	56

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1931.

## TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V).

Disease or Defect. (1)	*Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	TOTAL. (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm—Scalp ... ..	93	137	230
Ringworm—Body ... ..	268	6	274
Scabies ... ..	98	644	742
Impetigo... ..	2,660	44	2,704
Other Skin disease ... ..	1,461	141	1,602
MINOR EYE DEFECTS— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II)... ..	3,205	142	3,347
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ... ..	2,510	133	2,643
MISCELLANEOUS— (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ... ..	16,212	95	16,307
TOTAL ... ..	26,507	1,342	27,849

\* The numbers in Group I of this Table refer almost wholly to children treated at the Committee's Clinics. No reliable information is obtainable as to the number of cases treated elsewhere.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments, Group I).

Defect or Disease.  (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.  (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from Authority's Scheme.  (3)	Other- wise.  (4)	TOTAL.  (5)
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including Squint)				
New Cases ... ..	3,407	155	24	3,586
Re-examinations ... ..	2,710	35	7	2,752
TOTAL ... ..	6,117	190	31	6,338
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	24	28	—	52
TOTAL ... ..	6,141	218	31	6,390

Total number of Children for whom Spectacles were prescribed :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	5,327
(b) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	207

Total number of Children who obtained or received spectacles :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	5,302
(b) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	207



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat

	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.				
	RECEIVED OPERATIVE TREATMENT.			Received other forms of treatment.	Total number treated.
	Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)	By private practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)	TOTAL. (3)		
Tonsils and Adenoids ...	1,557	125	1,682	8	1,690
Mouth Breathing ...	—	—	—	272	272
TOTAL ...	1,557	125	1,682	280	1,962

Group IV.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of Children

(a) Inspected :—

		Aged			
Routine Age Groups	...	{	5	...	—
			6	...	8,181
			7	...	8,576
			8	...	8,829
			9	...	8,629
			10	...	8,225
			11	...	7,221
			12	...	5,044
			13	...	4,584
			14	...	534
		TOTAL		..	59,823
Specials	..	..	...	...	2,250
		GRAND TOTAL		..	62,073

(b) Found to require treatment .. ..	49,743
(c) Actually treated ... ..	17,588
(d) Re-treated during the year as the result of periodical examination	6 983

(2) Half-days devoted to { Inspection ... 379 }	TOTAL ..	2,707
{ Treatment .. 2328 }		

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

(3)	Attendances made by children for treatment	...	..	...	...	34,171
(4)	Fillings	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Permanent Teeth} \dots 9,194 \\ \text{Temporary Teeth} \dots 6 \end{array} \right\}$		...	..	TOTAL ... 9,200
(5)	Extractions	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Permanent Teeth} \quad 10,326 \\ \text{Temporary Teeth} \quad 38,333 \end{array} \right\}$		...	...	TOTAL ... 48,659
(6)	Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions	...	...	...	...	19,109
(7)	Other operations	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Permanent Teeth} \quad \dots 1,581 \\ \text{Temporary Teeth} \quad \dots 19 \end{array} \right\}$		...	TOTAL	... 1,600

### Group V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(1)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43.5
(2)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	184,095
(3)	Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,839
(4)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority, viz. :—									
	Under Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
	*Voluntarily	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,079
(5)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—									
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
	(c) Under Liverpool Corporation Act, 1921 :									
	Informations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
	Convictions ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

\* In addition to this number, which represents more than one attendance of certain children, and not individual children, 7,639 other children also attended the Cleansing Station, for Spray or Slipper Baths, on their own initiative.

HIGHER SCHOOLS.

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections

Age.	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Grand Total.
Boys ...	52	57	80	417	648	766	881	775	372	206	4,254
Girls ...	55	54	49	271	355	392	494	411	258	132	2,471
Total ...	107	111	129	688	1,003	1,158	1,375	1,186	630	338	6,725

B.—Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	302
Number of Re inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,886
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,188



## HIGHER SCHOOLS.

TABLE II.—A.

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year  
ended 31st December, 1931.

DEFECT OR DISEASE  (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	Number of Defects.		Number of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment. (3)	Requiring Treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment. (5)
MALNUTRITION ... ..	2	27	--	1
SKIN—				
Ringworm—				
Scalp ... ..	1	—	—	—
Body ... ..	2	—	—	—
Scabies ... ..	1	—	—	—
Impetigo ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ..	21	33	2	4
EYE—				
Blepharitis ... ..	5	13	—	—
Conjunctivitis ... ..	2	6	5	—
Keratitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Corneal Ulcers ... ..	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities ... ..	—	—	—	—
Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	381	1,385	138	79
Squint ... ..	20	127	16	3
Other Conditions ... ..	5	9	1	3
EAR—				
Defective Hearing ... ..	6	98	3	5
Otitis Media ... ..	12	89	2	5
Other Ear Diseases ... ..	6	8	—	—
NOSE AND THROAT—				
Enlarged Tonsils only ... ..	20	352	4	20
Adenoids only ... ..	3	15	2	1
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids ...	2	13	—	1
Other Conditions ... ..	28	116	7	6
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	—	35	—	—
				2
DEFECTIVE SPEECH ... ..	7	65	—	—

## HIGHER SCHOOLS.

TABLE II.—Continued.

DEFECT OR DISEASE  (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	Number of Defects.		Number of Defects.	
	Requiring Treat- ment.  (2)	Requiring to be kept under observa- tion, but not requiring Treat- ment. (3)	Requiring Treat- ment.  (4)	Requiring to be kept under observa- tion, but not requiring Treat- ment. (5)
TEETH—				
Dental Diseases ... ..	406	153	20	12
HEART AND CIRCULATION—				
Heart Disease—				
Organic ... ..	2	87	—	6
Functional ... ..	4	204	—	18
Anaemia ... ..	20	115	1	9
LUNGS—				
Bronchitis ... ..	3	88	1	4
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	14	—	1
*TUBERCULOSIS—				
Pulmonary—				
Definite ... ..	—	10	—	—
Suspected ... ..	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary—				
Glands ... ..	—	19	—	—
Spine ... ..	—	2	—	—
Hip ... ..	—	1	—	—
Other Bones and Joints ...	—	—	—	—
Skin ... ..	—	1	—	—
Other Forms ... ..	—	5	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
Epilepsy ... ..	1	—	—	—
Chorea... ..	4	—	—	—
Other Conditions ... ..	2	21	1	1
DEFORMITIES—				
Rickets ... ..	—	1	—	—
Spinal Curvature ... ..	12	50	—	1
Other Forms ... ..	12	80	—	3
Flat Feet ... ..	91	208	3	9
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES ...	112	446	14	52

\* Under the heading of Tuberculosis most of the cases in column (3) and (5) are cases in which the disease is quiescent but not yet considered cured.

**HIGHER SCHOOLS.**

B.—Number of Individual Children Found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Uncleanliness).

Group. (1)	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.		Percentage of children requiring treatment. (4)
	Inspected. (2)	Requiring treatment. (3)	
CODE GROUPS :			
Total ... ..	6,725	1,026	15.2

**TABLE IV.**

Return of Defects treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1931

**TREATMENT TABLE.**

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness).

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	TOTAL. (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm—Scalp ... ..	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body ... ..	—	—	—
Scabies ... ..	—	1	1
Impetigo... ..	—	1	1
Other Skin Diseases ... ..	—	20	20
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ... .. (External and others, but excluding cases falling in Group II)	—	16	16
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ... ..	8	25	33
MISCELLANEOUS (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ... ..	—	2	2
TOTAL ... ..	8	65	73



HIGHER SCHOOLS.

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

DISEASE OR DEFECT		NUMBER OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH			
		Under the Authority's Scheme	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint).	New Cases .....	101	65	73	239
	Re-examination Cases .....	183	32	28	243
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).....		—	1	—	1
TOTAL .....		284	98	101	483

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	243
(b) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	190

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	242
(b) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	190

**HIGHER SCHOOLS.**

## Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

	RECEIVED OPERATIVE TREATMENT			Received other Forms of Treatment	Total number treated
	Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme (2)	Total (3)		
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids.....	7	18	25	3	28
Mouth Breathing .....	—	—	—	15	15
TOTAL .....	7	18	25	18	43

APPENDIX C.

## LIVERPOOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

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 REPORT BY THE INSPECTOR OF PHYSICAL  
 TRAINING FOR THE YEAR 1931.
 

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The children in the elementary schools of Liverpool (140,000) have received systematic, progressive and regular training in physical exercises throughout the school year, this training being conducted by class teachers.

In addition to the lessons given to all children attending school, conforming to the Syllabus of the Board of Education, in playgrounds and school halls, the majority of senior departments and many junior departments include organised games in public parks and playing fields, and swimming instruction at the public and school baths, in the regular time-tables of work **during school hours.**

The interest of head and assistant teachers in the physical welfare of their pupils has also been clearly demonstrated by the whole-hearted manner in which they have continued to organise inter-school matches in football, cricket, baseball, rounders, netball and hockey; competitions in athletics, swimming, life-saving and folk-dancing; school camping and athletic sports **out of school hours.**

The following statements give a comprehensive idea of the extent of the physical activities organised in the elementary schools:—

There are **260 school departments** at which scholars over 11 years of age attend. The average time each week devoted to **physical exercise** in these departments on school premises



is between 80 and 90 minutes for each class. The Infant Departments devote at least one-half hour daily to games and physical exercises.

One hundred and sixty-three departments use public parks or playing fields for **organised games** during school hours.

Eighty-four departments are included in a scheme which secures **free transport** by tramcar from congested areas to playing fields in school hours.

Three hundred and thirty-two departments are accommodated at the public baths, and 41 departments at school baths, for **swimming instruction**.

A return by head teachers shows that in October, 1931, of the children in attendance at school **6,353 boys and 3,871 girls could swim** at least 25 yards.

One hundred and twenty-four departments are included in a scheme whereby a certain number of children can be sent to the public baths for **private slipper or spray baths** during winter months between the hours of 4 and 5 p.m.

Seventy-three departments organised **individual school swimming galas** for their pupils in 1931.

Eighty-six departments organised **individual school athletic sports**.

Seventy-nine departments organised **school camps** during the summer vacation.

## THE TEACHING OF SWIMMING AT THE PUBLIC BATHS—ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

### A. General Arrangements.

Eleven bathing establishments controlled by the Baths Committee are used during school hours for swimming instruction. The

Baths Committee allow scholars from the elementary schools under the control of teachers, to use the swimming plunges free of charge between the hours of 9-0 a.m. and 4-30 p.m. on each school day. A payment of £650 per annum is made by the Education Committee to the Baths Committee to help to defray the cost of washing and replacing towels.

The instruction is given by school teachers, according to set time-tables arranged at conferences of the Head Teachers concerned and the Inspector of Physical Training, with the co-operation of the Baths Committee.

The age grouping of children sent to the baths is left to the discretion of the Head Teachers, and governed by the time available. In some schools children under 11 years of age are taken to the baths. Between 20,000 and 30,000 children are taken to the public baths in school hours each week during the summer season. 398,892 attendances were registered during the summer of 1930 and 411,735 during the summer of 1931.

#### **B. Regulations and Arrangements for Ensuring the Safety of Bathers.**

1. The Education Committee's Rule insists that at least one teacher to each group of 40 children shall accompany the children to and from the baths, and supervise and instruct the children from the side of the bath during the bathing period.
2. During the periods of swimming instruction a regulation of the Baths Committee insists that an attendant shall be in constant attendance. The attendants are instructed in rescue methods, and are capable of rendering First Aid.
3. A bell push is in position at all plunges. This enables the attendants to raise the alarm in case of accident, without leaving the plunge.

4. Light bamboo poles are kept in all plunges, which can be used to assist tired swimmers, or to raise the body of a sinking bather. This method of rescue is considered more practicable than that of the teacher or attendant plunging to the rescue.
5. Instruction is given to the Baths' Superintendents that the water should at all times be clear enough to enable the bottom of the bath to be visible. Bathing is not allowed if this is not possible. (Fresh moorland water is often seen with the colouring of peat.)
6. A pole is put across the bath to act as a barrier between the shallow and deep portions of the bath, when a teacher with beginners asks for this to be done.

### **C. Remarks and Recommendations.**

The Inspector of Physical Training has recently discussed the questions of swimming instruction and "safety first" at the baths, with many prominent teachers of swimming, of which there are fortunately a large number under the jurisdiction of the Liverpool Education Committee, and the following points raised and discussed will be of interest to members of the Committee:—

1. In order to investigate the progress of swimming instruction in the schools, Head Teachers were asked to state the number of scholars who could swim at least 25 yards at the end of October, 1931. The results showed that 6,353 boys and 3,871 girls were swimmers—a total of 10,224. As there are about 43,000 children over the age of 11 years in the elementary schools, it is obvious that more bathing accommodation, and further progress and interest in swimming instruction are still necessary, if the ideal of "teaching all children to swim" is to be attained.
2. The majority of boys attending the public baths wear no bathing costumes or drawers.



3. A regulation insisting on the wearing of distinctive armlets, or costumes, by non-swimmers would possibly retard the interest and enthusiasm of parents, teachers and scholars in swimming. On the other hand, several teachers regard the suggestion as worthy of experiment, both for safety and for the encouragement of swimming.
4. The attendance at the baths is of necessity very congested at times. At Margaret Street, Westminster Road and Lodge Lane Baths, for instance, the time-table allows for periods of 20 minutes only. Squads of 70 to 80 boys are often bathing during one of these periods.
5. At public baths, such as Picton Road and Garston, where fewer schools attend, and more time is available, the wearing of a distinctive armlet by non-swimmers may be practicable.
6. It is an extremely rare occurrence for a non-swimmer to be seen in difficulties. The more prevalent danger is that of the "tired" swimmer, who loses his nerve when swimming in deep water.
7. A suggestion was made that if non-swimmers were to wear such a distinguishing article as a red armlet, while in the water, it might help the teachers and the bath attendants in their watchfulness for any children who may get into difficulties, and it might help also in the separation of the children into the two distinct classes of swimmers and non-swimmers with the consequent restriction of the latter class to the shallow end of the bath. Head Teachers have been invited to try this experiment and to report their views on the success or otherwise in the course of, say, one month after the opening of the Summer swimming season in April, 1932.

## Public Baths Attendances, 1931.

Name of Bath	ATTENDANCES		ATTENDANCES		ATTENDANCES	
	SWIMMING PLUNGES		SWIMMING PLUNGES		SLIPPER AND SPRAY BATHS	
	Summer Months April, May, June, Aug., Sep., Oct.		Winter, Months, 1931 Nov., Dec., Jan., February.		Winter Months, 1931 Nov., Dec., Jan., February.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Cornwallis Street	14,281	11,333	—	—	891	—
Margaret Street	52,565	17,156	17,487	1,509	662	583
Westminster Rd.	37,451	18,961	13,864	3,248	658	676
Lister Drive ...	22,050	15,465	—	—	—	—
Picton Road ...	14,846	6,710	—	—	735	280
Speke Road ...	22,972	12,397	9,923	2,403	—	—
Queen's Drive ...	17,987	15,474	—	—	—	—
Woolton ...	1,877	563	—	—	154	168
Stebble Street ...	39,393	14,761	13,738	1,775	1,291	1,515
Lodge Lane ...	20,824	16,486	4,914	1,267	889	462
Burroughs Gdns.	23,856	14,327	6,281	1,754	874	1,072
Netherfield Rd. ...	—	—	—	—	—	771
Minshull Street	—	—	—	—	420	615
Beacon Street ...	—	—	—	—	2,720	—
Melrose Road ...	—	—	—	—	1,190	939
	268,102	143,633	66,207	11,956	10,484	7,081
	411,735		78,163		17,565	
Totals for 1930 ...	398,892		87,949		18,815	

## School Plunge Baths Attendances, 1931.

Name of School Bath.	Size of Bath.	No. of weeks Bath was in use in 1931.	Attendances.		Other Schools using bath.
			Boys.	Girls.	
1 Anfield Road .....	51 ft. × 21 ft.	22½	9,720	6,411	{ Townsend Lane Boys' Holy Trinity C.E. Boys' Pinehurst Avenue Girls' All Saints R.C. Girls' Evening School Girls,
2 Beaufort Street ...	34 ft. × 16 ft.	24	6,208	4,814	
3 Birchfield Road ...	58 ft. × 20 ft.	21	7,429	8,071	
4 Boaler Street .....	45 ft. × 20 ft.	21	5,790	1,676	
5 Brae Street.....	24 ft. × 14 ft.	14	734	1,181	Used only by beginners
6 Daisy St. (Junr.) ...	19 ft. × 15¼ ft.	10	800	650	Used only by beginners
7 Breckfield—Venice Street (Boys') .....	20 ft. × 10 ft.	17	6,800	—	{ Major Lester, S. George's C.E., S. Saviour's C.E.
8 Breckfield—Granton Road (Girls') .....	40 ft. × 15 ft.	17	—	2,164	
9 Harrington (Girls')	24ft. × 13½ft.	18	1,620	2,340	Used only by beginners
10 Heyw'th St. (Girls')	30 ft. × 20 ft.	21	2,473	2,016	Evening School
11 Lawrence Road (Girls').....	54 ft. × 24 ft.	13	2,942	3,637	{ S. Hugh's, Webster Rd., Earle Road
12 Longmoor Lane	50 ft. × 20 ft.	20	4,827	7,227	
13 Rathbone (Girls') ...	21½ ft. × 15 ft.	23	1,725	2,300	{ Barlow's Lane Boys' and Girls, Rice Lane Boys' and Girls', S. John's C.E. Girls', Sacred Heart Boys' and Girls'. St. Jude's Boys' Aigburth Vale C.E. Girls'.
14 S. Michael's Hamlet (Girls') .....	22½ft. × 17¼ft.	19	988	1,387	
15 Sefton Park (Girls')	40 ft. × 20 ft.	22	3,564	1,836	Morrison Boys'.
16 Webster Road (Junior Girls') .....	24 ft. × 18 ft.	22	3,423	3,047	{ Earle Rd. Boys' and Girls', St. Hugh's R.C.
		TOTALS	59,043	48,757	

(Totals for 1930 : 67,509, 57,570)

## TOTAL ATTENDANCES AT SWIMMING PLUNGES (1931) :—

PUBLIC BATHS :—				Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Winter Months	...	...	...	66,207	11,956	78,163
Summer Months	...	...	...	268,102	143,633	411,735
SCHOOL BATHS :—						
Summer Months	...	...	...	59,043	48,757	107,000

TOTAL for year, 1931 ... 597,698

(Total for year 1930 : 611,920)



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS, 1931.

1. Since the summer of 1920 the Elementary Schools Sub-Committee has given approval for the payment of grants-in-aid, to assist teachers in taking poor children to Camp for a portion of the Summer Holiday. The amounts expended to date are as follows:—

Year.	Total Grant from L.E.A.			Number of Camps.
	£	s.	d.	
1920	348	10	0	22
1921	210	0	0	10
1922	71	0	0	4
1923	192	0	0	10
1924	483	10	0	24
1925	588	0	0	27
1926	697	10	0	31
1927	1,000	0	0	42
1928	1,027	0	0	42
1929	1,490	7	0	69
1930	1,628	9	0	66
1931	1,655	10	0	79

2. In preparing the scheme for 1931, all elementary schools in Liverpool were circularised inviting applications for inclusion, and 86 schools sent in applications which were favourably considered and approved by the Sub-Committee—7 schools subsequently withdrew their applications—79 Camps were conducted.

3. The Board of Education approved for the year 1931 the expenditure of £1,750 on School Holiday Camps. The preliminary applications received would have involved grant expenditure of £2,199 10s. 0d. The Sub-Committee then decided to approve expenses for “one-week” Camps only.

It is interesting to report that the **total expenses** of all Camps were £4,176 0s. 0d. This shows that the Committee's policy of “helping those who help themselves” is fully justified.

4. The Inspector of Physical Training has received and filed reports received from the Organisers, and from the official visitors.

The teachers and leaders appreciated the kindly interest of the Chairman, Councillor J. Jude, Councillors Mrs. M. Hamilton, J. Williams and G. H. Boothman, Mr. J. T. Hardeman and

Mr. C. Barker, in recording visits of inspection. Other Camps were inspected by the Deputy-Director, the Committee's Inspectors and Mr. A. Lucas. The cost of inspection totalled £30.

The Camps were generally reported upon as being well organised, the sanitary arrangements sufficient, the food wholesome and ample, and the various activities health giving. (Excellent photographs are available for inspection.)

5. It is anticipated that for the Summer Holidays of 1932, the same enthusiasm for camping will be shewn by the teachers, and it is probable that more leaders will be forthcoming, more schools included, and more children benefited if the necessary grant-in-aid is offered.

### **GAMES SUPERVISION IN PUBLIC PARKS DURING SUMMER HOLIDAYS, 1931.**

During the five weeks of the elementary schools' holiday the Elementary Education Sub-Committee, in co-operation with the Parks and Gardens Committee, carried out their scheme, for the twelfth successive year, whereby definite organised games and other physical activities were provided in the larger public parks of Liverpool for children on holiday.

The Wavertree Playground was not available owing to the Agricultural Show, but seven parks were used, as enumerated below. In each park three paid Supervisors were appointed—two men and one woman—who were on duty from 1-0 p.m. to 5-0 p.m. daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday.

Games apparatus was supplied, as in previous years, and stored and issued from the lock-up huts provided for that purpose. The items of apparatus were:—Net-ball posts, Rounder bats, Cricket balls, Baseballs, Cricket and Baseball bats, ropes for Tug-of-war and Skipping, and Boxing gloves.

The weather was not so fine as in previous years, but the children were eager for their games even during threatening and showery

weather. The attendance varied in the different parks, the average daily attendances of children under the immediate control of the Games Organisers being as follows:—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Stanley Park ... ..	412	102	514
Garston Recreation Ground ...	182	134	316
Walton Hall Recreation Ground ... ..	196	72	268
Sefton Park (Review Field)...	186	84	270
Clubmoor Recreation Ground..	265	92	357
Sheil Park ... ..	189	81	270
Princes Park ... ..	272	128	400
	<hr/> 1,702 <hr/>	<hr/> 693 <hr/>	<hr/> 2,395 <hr/>

Other children were busy with the swings and paddling pools. Congestion in the more central parks was certainly less noticeable than in previous years, and the Organisers state that this was partly due to the number of scholars who took advantage of the cheap tram fares to the parks in the outskirts of Liverpool.

Inter-park cricket matches were organised, and cricket and rounder teams were also formed representing schools or streets. The chief weekly event in each park was the Sports meeting, for which the scheme allows a weekly sum of 5s. per park for the purchase of small prizes. Interested spectators and the Organisers supplemented these prize funds.

No serious accidents occurred, and the honesty of the children in returning bats, balls, wickets, etc., to the storage huts from distant playing pitches was commendable.

The Inspector of Physical Training reports that, although the scheme caters only for a comparatively small proportion of the huge school population of Liverpool, which lacks opportunities to spend holidays by the seaside, or in the country air, the organisation is well worth the expense entailed.

A similar scheme has been approved for the Summer Holidays of 1932.



## **EVENING PLAY CENTRES.**

**Winter Months, January, February, March, October,  
November, December, 1931.**

The premises of fifteen schools were used regularly throughout the winter months of January, February, March, October, November and December, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, from 5-30 to 7-30 p.m.

Thirteen of these centres were conducted on the same school premises as in previous years, and two additional centres in the new housing area of Norris Green (Leamington Road Boys', Leamington Road Girls') were included for the first time. This new area is populated with workers who have mostly migrated from the more congested areas of the City, and the children appreciated the opening of the new play centres.

A considerable reorganisation of the staffs was made at the commencement of the session, in accordance with the Sub-Committee's selection, and five centres, viz., St. Augustine's Council Girls', Leamington Road Boys', Leamington Road Girls', Harrington and Banks Road, were conducted by newly-appointed Superintendents.

The Supervisors paid surprise visits to all the centres at various times during the session, and report that all centres were controlled effectively; that the teachers appointed were thoroughly interested in their work; and that approximately 6,800 poor children were entertained for two hours on each evening of opening.

The large number of day schools from which children attend shows that the play centres of several years' standing have become stabilised and known to parents and children in the districts in which they are situated. The regional distribution of these 13 centres in the most congested areas of the City has been carefully considered, and no change is recommended. The regular attendance of between 350 and 450 children at each of the new Norris Green Centres has been maintained.

In order to enable members of the Evening Play Centres Sub-Committee, and other persons interested, to obtain a comprehensive idea of the winter play centre activities in Liverpool, as at present organised, a summary is given below, showing the average attendances, the number of paid staff, and the chief occupations:—

Name of Evening Play Centre			Average Attendance	Number of Staff		Chief Occupations conducted
				Superintendents	Assistants	
Addison Street	...	Boys and Girls	483	1	8	Folk and National dancing, Raffia work, Flower-making, Boxing, Games
Banks Road	...	Boys and Girls	497	1	9	Painting, Singing, Paper flowers, Dancing Lantern Lectures, Gymnastics, Handwork
Harrington	...	Boys and Girls	548	1	11	Boxing, Cardboard Modelling, Brushwork, Crayon work, Charades, Dancing
Harrison Jones	...	Boys and Girls	473	1	8	Dancing, Painting, Dramatics, Fretwork, Handwork, Games, Reading
Holy Cross R.C.	...	Girls	298	1	6	Rhythmic and Folk Dancing, Fancy Needlework, Paper Flower making, Crayon work
Netherfield Road	...	Boys and Girls	547	1	8	Cardboard modelling, Painting, Indoor Sports, Boxing, Paper Flower making, Story telling, Charades
Penrhyn Street	...	Boys and Girls	613	1	9	Rhythmic and Ballroom Dancing, Story telling, Gymnastic Games, Needlework, Paper Flowers
S. Augustine's	.....	Boys	465	1	8	Painting, design, Drama, Woodwork, Gymnastic Games, Parlour Games
S. Augustine's	...	Girls	405	1	8	Raffia and Cane Work, Paper Flower making, Ballroom Dancing, Drama, Charades
Carried forward ...			4,329			

Name of Evening Play Centre			Average Attendance	Number of Staff		Chief Occupations conducted
Brought forward ...			4,329	Superintendents	Assistants	
S. James'	...	Boys and Girls	489	1	8	Folk dancing, Painting, Needlework, gymnastic Games, Boxing, Woodwork
S. Paul's C.E.	...	Boys and Girls	441	1	8	Fretwork, Painting, Dancing, Crayon work, Cardboard work, Story telling.
S. Sylvester's R.C....		Boys and Girls	681	1	10	Singing, Meccano, Boxing, Pastel work, Lantern lectures, English and Irish dancing.
Wellington Road	...	Boys and Girls	459	1	8	Painting, Parlour Games, Dancing, Needlework, Physical Exercise, Gymnastic Games
Leamington Rd.	...	Boys	431	1	8	Cardboard modelling, Painting, Puzzles, Story telling, Boxing.
Leamington Rd.	...	Girls	427	1	8	Gymnastic Games Acting Fairy Tales, Painting, Handwork, Singing, Paper Flowers, Dancing
TOTAL AVERAGE ATTENDANCE			7,257			

### EVENING PLAY CENTRES—SUMMER MONTHS.

In compliance with the request of the Elementary Education Sub-Committee, the scheme, whereby certain school playgrounds in congested parts of the city were opened on summer evenings for children's games, in 1930, was reorganised. As a preliminary step the Director discussed with a number of experienced head teachers and others the best means of meeting the Sub-Committee's desire that a number of playgrounds situated in crowded areas should be opened, with the object not only of providing opportunities for recreation and play during the long summer evenings, but also of drawing the children, and particularly the younger ones, away from the dangers of the heavy traffic in the streets.



The scheme as carried out in 1931 during the months of May, June, August and September, was as follows:—

Twenty-one playgrounds were opened from 5-30 to 7-30, each under the supervision of one teacher. Some playgrounds were opened on five evenings a week, and others for two, three or four evenings each week.

The average attendance was 1,966 children for each occasion—93 children in each playground.

The parents of the smaller children were very grateful, several expressed their relief from worry in knowing that their children were safe in an enclosed area, away from the traffic and under the supervision of teachers.

### **The Voluntary Work of the Teachers' Sports Committees “ Out of School Hours.”**

The **Liverpool Branch of the N.U.T.** controls the organisation of the games and competitions “ out of school hours,” open to all girls attending the elementary schools, and the **Liverpool Branch of the N.A.S.** controls the activities open to all boys. In addition a parallel organisation is conducted by the **Catholic Schools' Athletic Association** for all children attending Roman Catholic Schools.

The annual reports of the Sports Committees of these Associations show the extensive work done by the teachers in the interests of the physical education and development of the children of the City.

Extracts from these reports are here appended:—

#### **GIRLS.**

By Miss M. H. Parry (Hon. Sec. Sports Committee, Liverpool Branch, N.U.T.) :—

#### **L. & D.T.A. SPORTS COMMITTEE REPORT, 1931.**

“ It is with great pleasure that this Sports Committee presents its report for 1931.  
“ All the usual competitions, Netball, Hockey, Rounders, Swimming and Athletics  
“ have been held and the standard attained in the various branches is exceedingly  
“ gratifying.”

“The following details will bear out this statement :—

#### NETBALL.

“In the Senior Leagues 37 schools entered, this being an increase of 4 on the previous year. In the Junior Competition 27 schools registered. 16 schools also played in a Knock-out competition held during the season. The finals were played on the Police Athletic Ground on April 14th.”

“An outstanding feature of this year’s games was the success of a small sized team against girls of much finer physique. This goes to prove once again that skill is of greater value than strength.”

#### HOCKEY.

“A slight increase in the number of schools taking part shows the continued interest in this game. The standard of play during the season indicates steady improvement, and it is to be hoped that greater facilities will be given to encourage this branch of our activities. This would certainly mean an increase in the number of schools entering the competition. We are glad to report that a pitch has been marked out on Sandown Lane playing field.”

#### ROUNDERS.

“No less than 120 schools took part in the 3 competitions of this popular summer game—a record.”

“After 6 splendid games in the semi-finals held at the Police Athletic Society’s Ground the following teams took part in the finals at the White Star Ground on August 26th.”

“SENIOR LEAGUE. Lawrence Road and Banks Road.”

“INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE. Victoria, Garston and Heygreen Road.”

“JUNIOR LEAGUE. St. George’s, Everton, and Lister Drive.”

“The first named in each case being the winning team.”

#### DANCE FESTIVAL.

“This continues to prove a pleasing feature of Finals Day, a goodly number of schools taking part in the country dances.”

“An innovation this year was the introduction of Scottish country dancing by four schools.”

“St Edward’s Orphanage boys once more provided a very efficient musical programme.”

#### ATHLETIC FESTIVAL.

“The district preliminary trials were again held prior to the main festival on Empire Day. The 3 preliminary meetings were highly successful, there being an increase in the number of entries, and it was found that Sandown Lane playing field proved to be more suitable than the one at Knotty Ash.”

“The finals were held at the White Star Ground and the standard of style showed further evidence of the increase in the systematic training received by the competitors. This made the selection of girls to represent the City at the Lancashire County Festival much easier.”

COUNTY FESTIVAL.

“The County Festival was held in the ideally convenient Stanley Park, Blackpool, on Saturday, June 20th.”

“Our team again distinguished itself by retaining the Girls’ Trophy (presented by Mrs. Aitken) for Liverpool.”

“Although our girls were successful it is to be noted that victory was gained by the narrow margin of half a point, Nelson aggregating 15½ points to Liverpool 16 points.”

NATIONAL FESTIVAL.

“The National Championship Festival was held at Reading on Saturday, July 18th. Miss Edwards, of the Roscoe school, was again in charge of the county team; Veronica Buckley (St. Matthew’s R.C. School) and Winifred Grace (Banks Road School) representing Liverpool.”

SWIMMING.

“This year 109 schools entered the various competitions and 121 schools were registered for certificates, the latter being a new arrangement this year, and possibly not yet completely understood.

CERTIFICATES.

Third Class	...	...	...	...	1,281
Back Stroke	...	...	...	...	902
Second Class	...	...	...	...	724
First Class	...	...	...	...	258
Total awards	...	...	...	...	3,165

“There were also a large number of Royal Life Saving awards earned during the season.”

COUTIE SHIELD.

“Points are awarded for this shield on the number of certificates earned during the year on a percentage on the average attendance of the schools concerned.”

“Results were as follows:—

Banks Road (Winner)	...	...	185·2 points
Birchfield Road	...	...	140·3 „
Evered Avenue (Central)	...	...	134·1 „
St. Vincent’s R.C. Schools	...	...	130·4 „
Lister Drive (last year’s holder)	...	...	130·2 „
Earle Road	...	...	126·8 „
Anfield Road	...	...	125·2 „
Beaufort Street	...	...	122·1 „



## SWIMMING SCHOLARSHIPS.

“Trials for these scholarships were held by the Encouragement of Swimming Committee at Westminster Road and Garston Baths.”

“This year the number of scholarships awarded to girls was 29.”

“Girls who obtain a first year scholarship are eligible for trial for second year scholarships.”

“The number of girls entering for the second year scholarships is still disappointing.”

## GALAS.

“This Committee is pleased to report that the eight district galas were all very efficiently organised and financially successful.”

“The Committee would like to express its thanks to all the gala secretaries, organising officials and stewards, for their excellent work.”

“In conclusion, the Sports Committee wishes to express its sincere thanks to all those who have so generously helped its work during the past year.”

## BOYS AND GIRLS.

By Mr. H. G. Turner (Hon. Sec. Catholic Elementary Schools' Athletic Association):—

## FOOTBALL.

“Thirty-seven schools entered for the leagues, many schools entering two teams—one senior and one junior.”

“Two separate leagues were run, one in the North, the other in the South, and each was divided into two divisions:—Division I and Division II.”

“In addition to the league fixtures, two separate competitions were run—both of the ‘knock-out’ variety.”

“Eighteen teams entered for the junior leagues, divided into North and South districts.”

“In the ‘Catholic Schools’ Cup’ competition thirty-seven teams entered.”

“Football activities have been marked with the same high spirit and enthusiasm of former years. The standard of football has been consistently good, and a pleasing feature has been the development of the Junior Leagues.”

## SUMMER GAMES.

## BOYS.

“The finals at the Police Athletic Ground held early in July brought to a conclusion the most successful Summer Games’ Season the Association has experienced.”

“This section of the Association’s activities has always suffered in comparison with the flourishing football competitions, but so large were the entries and such a high degree of excellence attained by the competing teams that it seems as if Summer Games are at last attracting the attention they deserve.”

#### CRICKET.

“The Cricket Leagues were four in number, comprising 22 teams.”

#### BASEBALL.

“This game is becoming increasingly more popular among the schools, due in no small measure to Liverpool being the centre of English Baseball.”

#### SWIMMING.

“This is the one Summer Games’ activity where there is room for complaint. Considering the number of expert swimmers there are in our schools, one is justified in anticipating a bigger entry than 12 teams.”

#### SWIMMING GALA.

“There has been such an insistent demand from many schools that the Association decided to promote an annual Swimming Gala for boys and girls at Westminster Road Baths. When arrangements were well in hand, an unexpected hitch cropped up, and the Committee were compelled to leave the matter in abeyance.”

#### GIRLS.

“The Summer Games for Girls showed a decided improvement.”

#### ROUNDERS.

“Two leagues were formed and play was of a very high standard.”

#### SWIMMING.

“Great enthusiasm was shown. Four leagues were formed and the matches went off with a rally from the onset.”

#### NETBALL.

“19 teams formed 4 leagues (Senior) and 11 teams formed 3 leagues (Junior). The finals took place on Liverpool’s ground.”

#### SPORTS FESTIVAL.

“Despite the very bad weather experienced during both the preliminaries and finals the attendance and entries were pleasing.”

“Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our Festival on one of the local big grounds, and this detracted some of the enthusiasm of the entries. However more than 40 schools entered for team events and approximately 1,500 entries were received for ordinary events. (This comprises both boys and girls.)”

“We are looking forward to a more successful year in 1932, and intend to make the 13th Annual Athletic Festival the opposite to that which the number indicates.”

## BOYS.

By Mr. G. Ashplant (Hon. Sec. Sports Committee, Liverpool Branch N.A.S.) :—

“ Gentlemen,

“ Despite difficulties due to re-organisation of schools, your sports Committee  
 “ has pleasure in reporting yet another very successful year of work on behalf of the  
 “ sports and physical welfare of our schoolboys of Liverpool. Every branch of the  
 “ Committee’s activities has continued to flourish and a record number of entries is  
 “ recorded in the several competitions.”

## FOOTBALL.

“ In Football, the number of teams competing in the leagues creates a record.  
 “ Consequent upon re-organisation the schools competing dropped from 97 last year  
 “ to 91, but the number of teams engaged shows a gratifying increase from 160 to  
 “ 167. The new junior competition attracted 7 schools, whilst the under 15 group  
 “ drew 5. Leagues worked through to their finals with characteristic smoothness  
 “ and the usual sportsmanlike spirit prevailed. 57 teams entered the Knock-out  
 “ competition, an increase of 5 on last year’s entry.”

## CRICKET.

“ Further records were established in the Cricket competitions, 80 schools  
 “ entering 153 teams, an increase of 8 on last year, and a record in cricket history.  
 “ The large number of teams in A, B and C groups, and the short time available for  
 “ playing matches, necessitated a great many preliminary and qualifying rounds  
 “ before the semi-finals were reached. The finals were played at the Police Athletic  
 “ Ground before a large and very appreciative gate. Considering the difficulties  
 “ experienced by playing on bad pitches and congested grounds, the high standard  
 “ of play reached year by year is truly remarkable.”

## BASEBALL.

“ Baseball has had a very enjoyable and successful season. The two main  
 “ competitions showed an entry of 43 teams as against 42 the previous year, and in  
 “ addition the under 11 league was supported by 6 schools. Further entries, partic-  
 “ ularly from the South end would be welcome in future years and would add to the  
 “ attractiveness of the competition. It is also to be hoped that all Junior schools  
 “ will consider the formation of a team for the coming season.”

## SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

“ Great strides are being made in Athletics and this year all previous records  
 “ have been eclipsed. Each District Festival recorded an increase in the number of  
 “ entries, and altogether 85 schools were represented by 2,700 entries, which together  
 “ with the Championship Festival made a grand total of 3,250 entries. The  
 “ Championship Festival was held at the Police Athletic Ground on May 30th, the  
 “ competition for points being keener than ever, there being no fewer than 32 schools  
 “ gaining points, the widest distribution yet achieved.”

“ Exhibitions of Pole Jumping, Morris Dancing and displays of Physical  
 “ Exercises were very popular with those present.”

## COUNTY ATHLETIC FESTIVAL.

“ At the Lancashire Festival held at Blackpool on June 20th, the Liverpool  
 “ team was again prominent, and all three trophies were retained for a further year.”



## NATIONAL ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP.

“Following Liverpool successes at Blackpool, A. Cummings (Sefton Park) and “R. Cox (St. Athanasius)’ were included in the Lancashire team at the All-England “Championship at Reading in July. Real misfortune prevented Lancashire from “becoming champions, and they had to rest content with 2nd place to London. Our “Liverpool representatives did magnificently and R. Cox has the proud distinction “of being the first Lancashire boy to annex a championship, winning the 220 yards “in  $25\frac{3}{5}$  secs. A. Cummings in his heat beat the existing record for the 100 yards by “ $\frac{1}{10}$  sec., returning  $11\frac{1}{10}$  secs. After a thrilling race in the final, in which inches “separated the winners, he was placed third, the winner setting up a record of 11 secs.”

## SWIMMING.

“Forty-four schools entered the Swimming Leagues as compared with 47 last “year, but the number of teams entered increased from 112 to 116. The alteration “in teams from 6 to 4 swimmers made for very close finishes in the actual races.”

## CERTIFICATES:

“A slight increase in the number of certificates awarded for swimming is shown “over last year, the total being 2,702 as against 2,670, the allocation being as follows : “Beginners 1,575, Distance 927, Speed 170, Proficiency 30. In addition to the schools “entering the leagues, 69 others affiliated, this being an increase of 4 on 1930.”

## LIFE SAVING.

“A large increase over last year’s figures is recorded in the number of Life Saving “Awards granted, 154 L.A.S. certificates (119 Elementary and 35 advanced) being “awarded as against 104, and 124 R.L.S.S. as against 109. This shows a very real “progress.”

## GALAS.

“Ten District Galas were held, as in former years, and were a little better attended “than usual, although far greater support should be accorded them. Lister Drive “Bath was packed on the occasion of the Champions’ Gala and it was voted one of “the most successful of the long series.”

“Your Committee wishes to record its deep appreciation of the services given by “all those, who outside our Association, continue to render us their support and “assistance.”

“The chief credit for the many successes recorded in this report, is due to that “very large body of teachers who give so willingly of their leisure time.”

In presenting this report to the Elementary Education Sub-Committee, the Inspector of Physical Training wishes to emphasise the importance and extent of the willing work of the teachers of Liverpool in organising these competitions after school hours, entirely without financial aid from the Education Authority.

It is recommended that a letter of appreciation be sent to each of the three Teachers’ Associations responsible.

ALFRED E. HARRIS,

March, 1932.

*Inspector of Physical Training.*